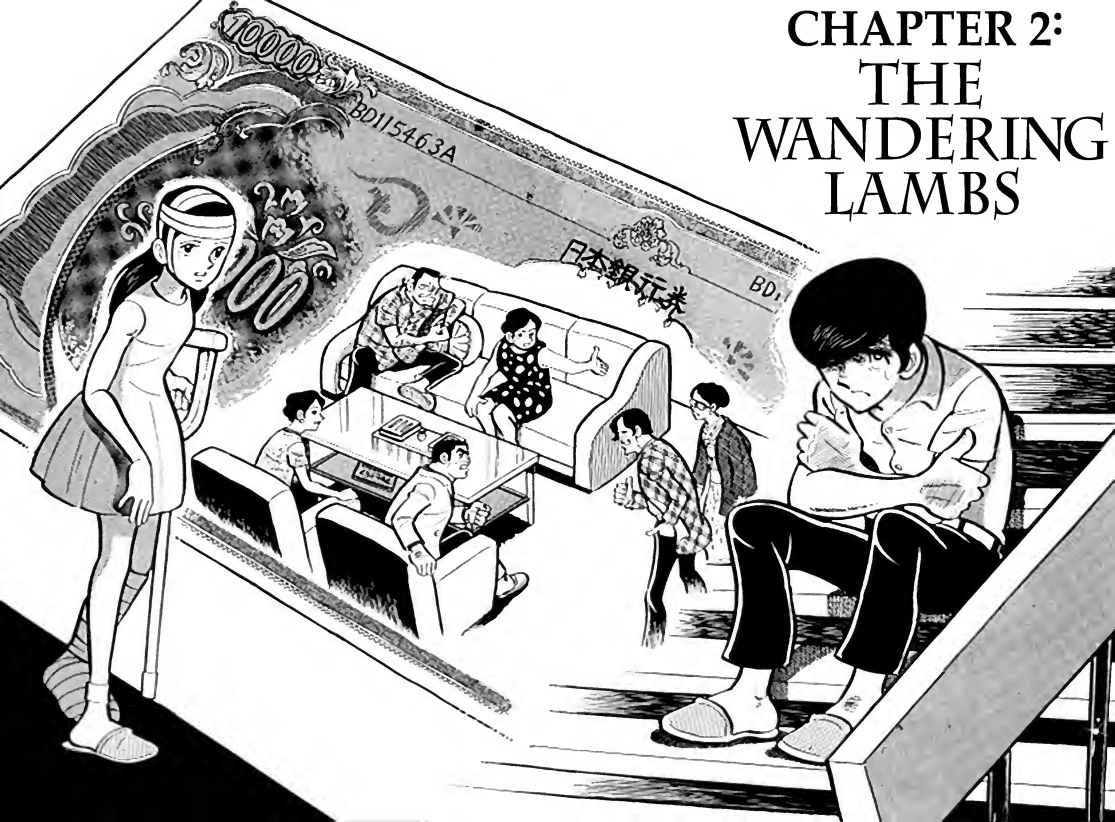
CHAPTER 2:
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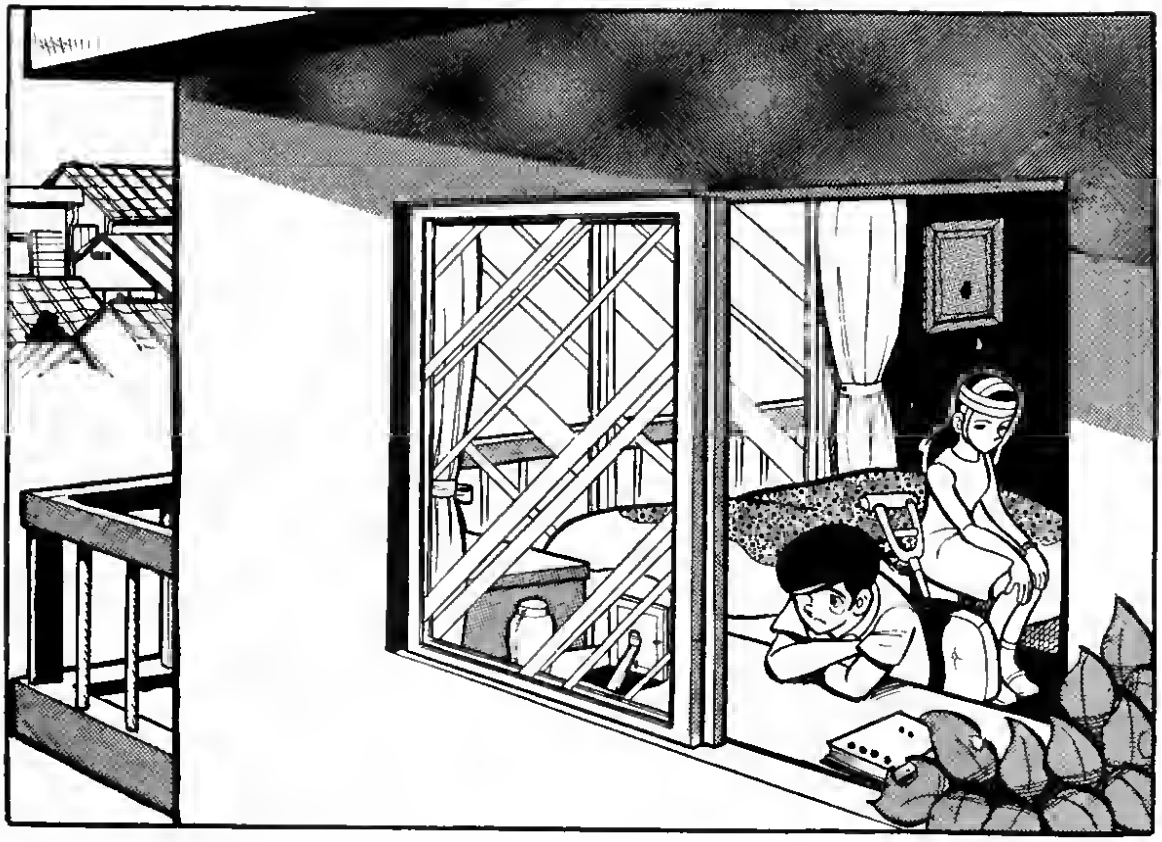
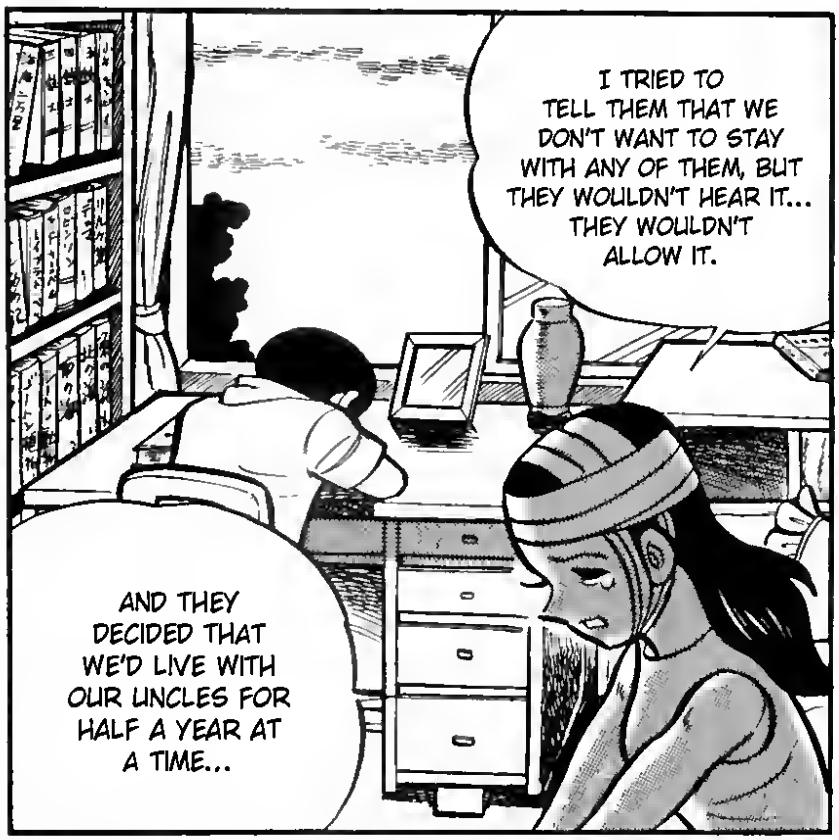
THE LATE MR. AND MRS. CHUMA KEN'ICHIRO
I'M THE SECOND SON. I HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO CARE FOR KEN AND AKO.
YES, HONEY. AND WE'LL MAKE SURE TO RAISE THEM RIGHT, SO THAT THEY DON'T FEEL ASHAMED FOR BEING ORPHANS.
HIS YOUNGER BROTHER, MR. AND MRS. CHUMA KENJIRO
OWN A RESTAURANT IN KOBE
THOSE CHILDREN SHOULDN'T HAVE TO CHANGE SCHOOLS. WE'LL MOVE IN HERE WITH THEM.
YEAH! WE'LL LOOK AFTER THEM.
HIS YOUNGER SISTER, NOBUKO
HER HUSBAND YAMADA IS AN UNEMPLOYED PROBLEM GAMBLER
I'LL LOOK AFTER THEM.. I'LL CONVERT THIS HOUSE INTO APARTMENTS, AND KEEP THE RENT FOR KEN AND AKO'S FUTURE.
HIS YOUNGEST BROTHER, MR. AND MRS. CHUMA KENZABURO
RUN A REAL ESTATE FIRM IN TOKYO



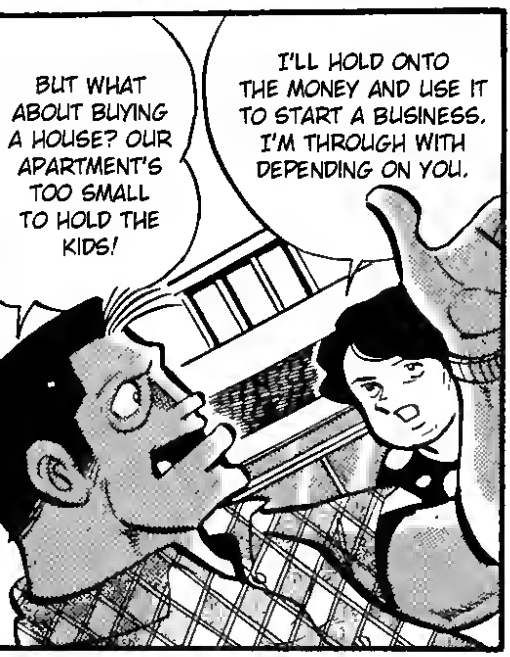

I TRIED TO TELL THEM THAT WE DON'T WANT TO STAY WITH ANY OF THEM, BUT THEY WOULDN'T HEAR IT... THEY WOULDN'T ALLOW IT.
AND THEY DECIDED THAT WE'D LIVE WITH OUR UNCLES FOR HALF A YEAR AT A TIME...

I GUESS THEY'VE FINALLY DECIDED.

I DON'T WANNA LIVE IN THIS HOUSE IF IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US...
DON'T YOU WANT TO STAY IN THIS HOUSE?
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME, KEN...?
AS LONG AS WE'RE STAYING WITH SOMEONE WE KNOW, THAT'S FINE WITH ME!!
SHUT UP... SHUT UP, AKO! I DON'T EVEN CARE ANYMORE!
EVEN IF IT MEANS GOING TO KOBE?
H...HE'S SO PATHETIC...
MOM... DAD...
W-WHY... WHY IS HE SO TIMID...?

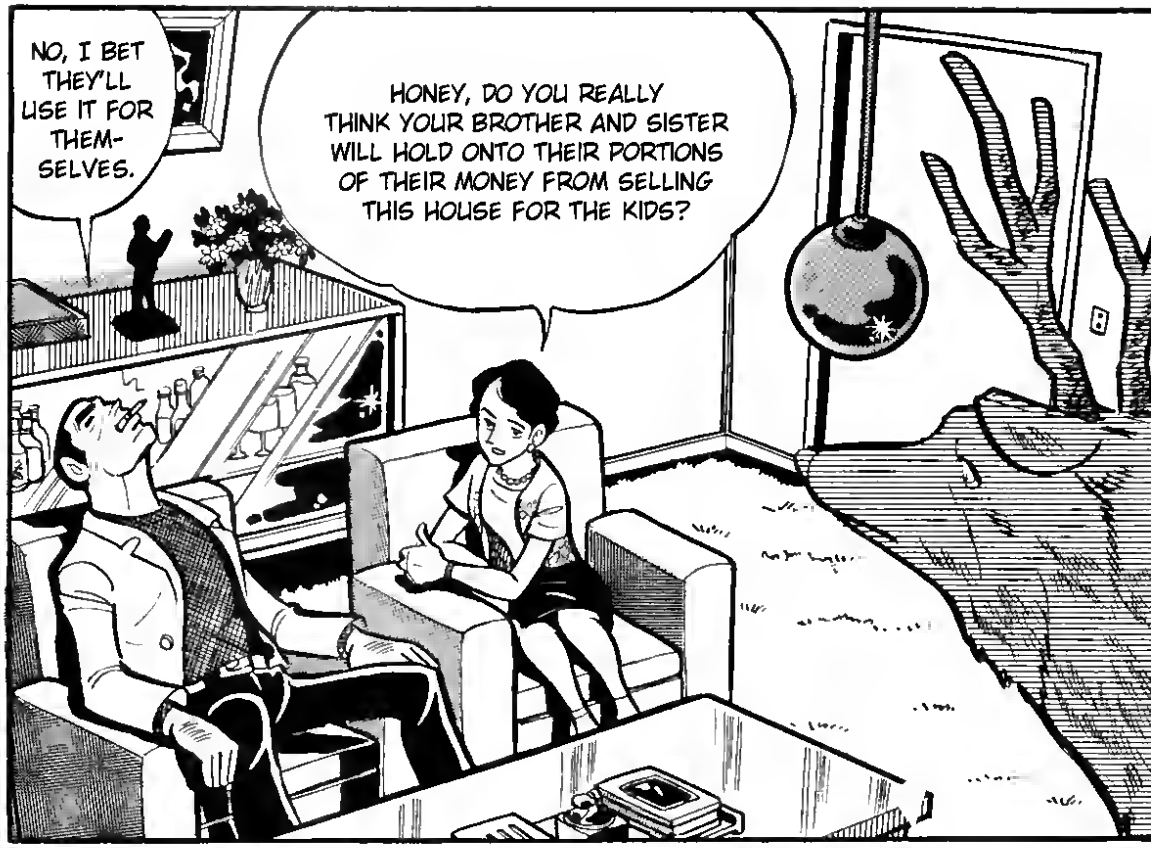
HONEY, ARE YOU SURE THEY'RE NOT JUST GOING TO DUMP THE KIDS ON US, THEN REFUSE TO TAKE THEM BACK?
NOT IF I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT IT.
OH? BUT AREN'T WE SUPPOSED TO GIVE THAT MONEY BACK?
NOW WE'RE FREE FROM PAYING OUR DEBT, AND WE'LL BE HOLDING ON TO THE MONEY WE'RE GETTING FROM SELLING THE HOUSE FOR A WHILE.
THAT'S ONLY ON PAPER, SILLY.
ONLY ON PAPER... HEHEHEHE...

WHAT?
OF COURSE WE'LL USE IT. BUT I'M NOT LETTING YOU ANYWHERE NEAR IT. I'M NOT GOING TO HAVE YOU BLOW IT ON HORSE AND CYCLING RACES.

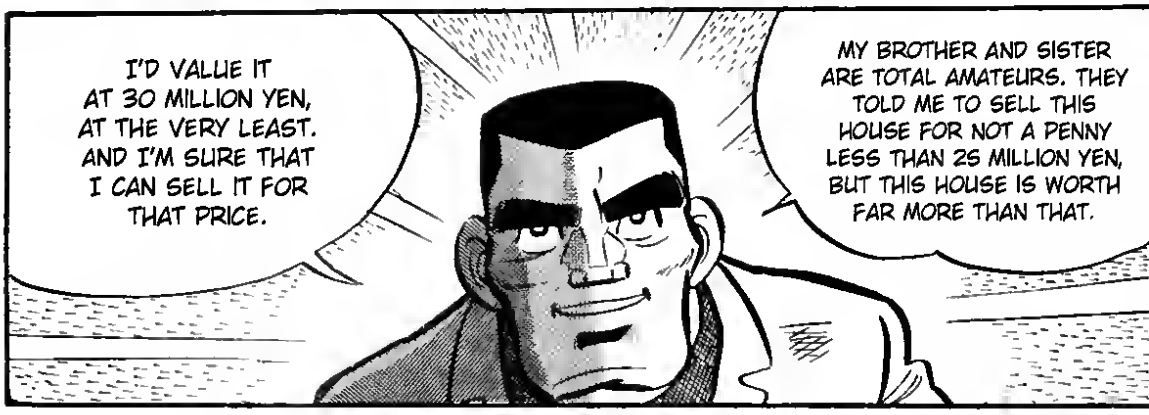

BUT WHAT ABOUT BUYING A HOUSE? OUR APARTMENT'S TOO SMALL TO HOLD THE KIDS!
I'LL HOLD ONTO THE MONEY AND USE IT TO START A BUSINESS. I'M THROUGH WITH DEPENDING ON YOU.

WE'RE NOT BUYING A HOUSE... AND THAT MEANS WE'RE NOT TAKING THE KIDS.

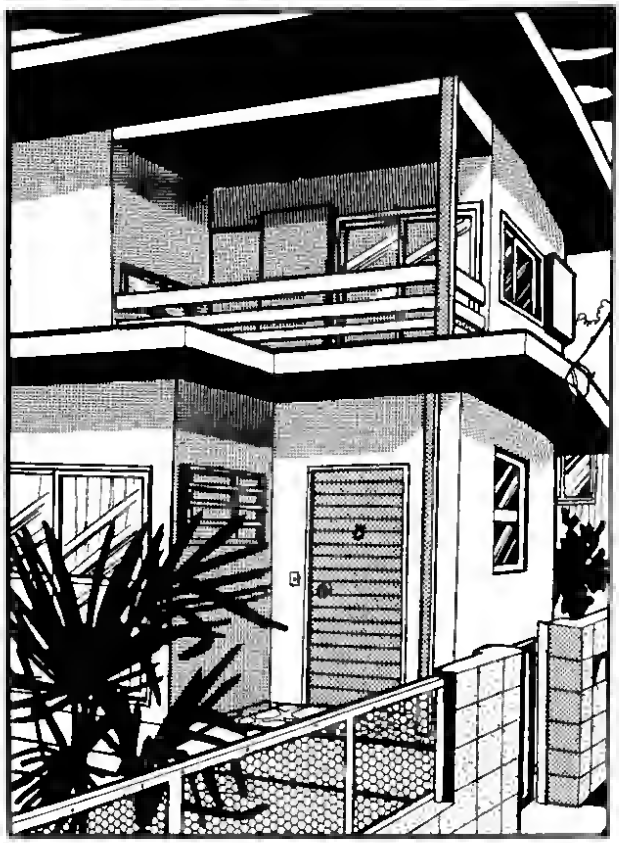
HEY, WE'RE GONNA USE THAT MONEY ONCE IT COMES IN, RIGHT?
IF WE DON'T, THEY'LL HANG THE MONEY OVER OUR HEADS TO GET US TO TAKE CARE OF THE KIDS.

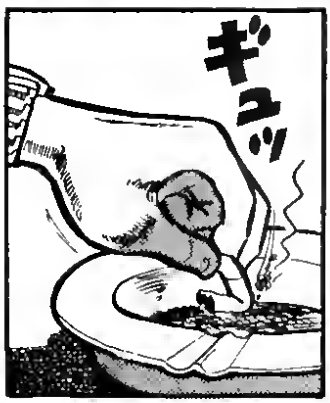

HONEY, DO YOU REALLY THINK YOUR BROTHER AND SISTER WILL HOLD ONTO THEIR PORTIONS OF THEIR MONEY FROM SELLING THIS HOUSE FOR THE KIDS?
NO, I BET THEY'LL USE IT FOR THEM-SELVES.

NOW, NOW, CALM DOWN. THE MORE IMPORTANT THING HERE IS THAT THEY ASKED ME TO FIND A BUYER... SO MY TOP PRIORITY IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THAT.
THEN WE SHOULD USE OURS, TOO...


I'D VALUE IT AT 30 MILLION YEN, AT THE VERY LEAST. AND I'M SURE THAT I CAN SELL IT FOR THAT PRICE.
MY BROTHER AND SISTER ARE TOTAL AMATEURS. THEY TOLD ME TO SELL THIS HOUSE FOR NOT A PENNY LESS THAN 25 MILLION YEN, BUT THIS HOUSE IS WORTH FAR MORE THAN THAT.

THE NEXT DAY, KEN AND AKO LEFT THE HOUSE THEY GREW UP IN BEHIND, TO GO TO KOBE, WHERE THEY WERE STAYING FIRST.

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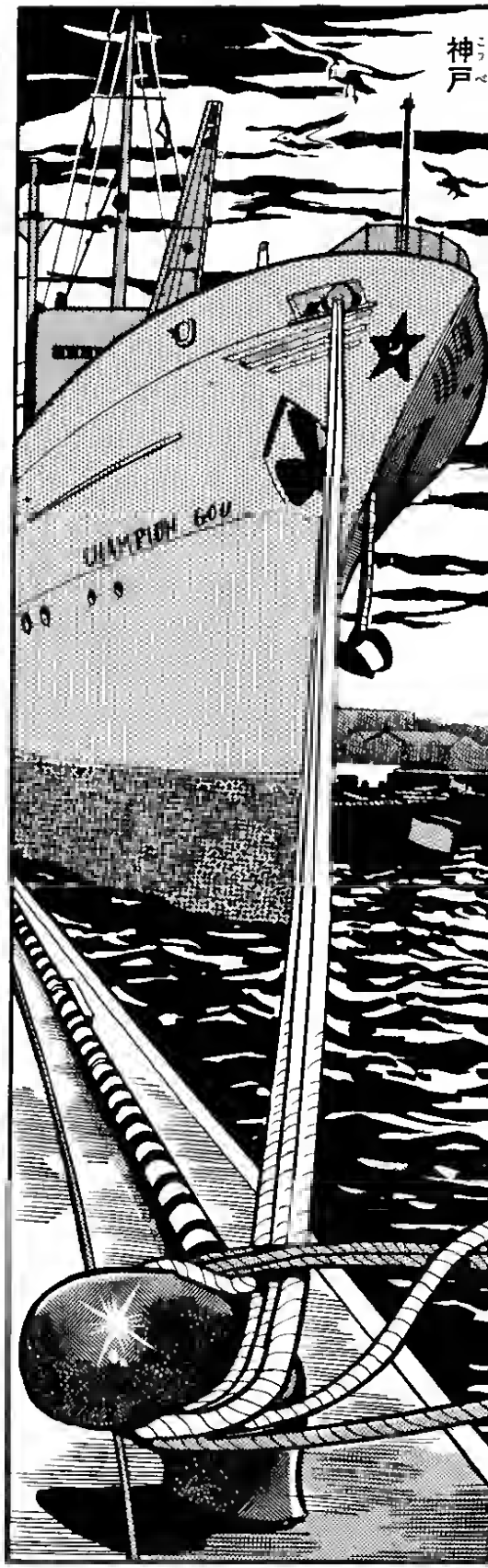
Chuma
Kenjiro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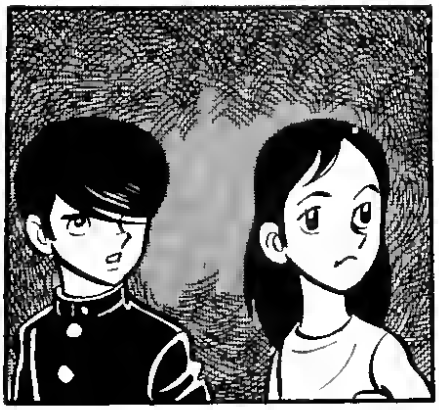
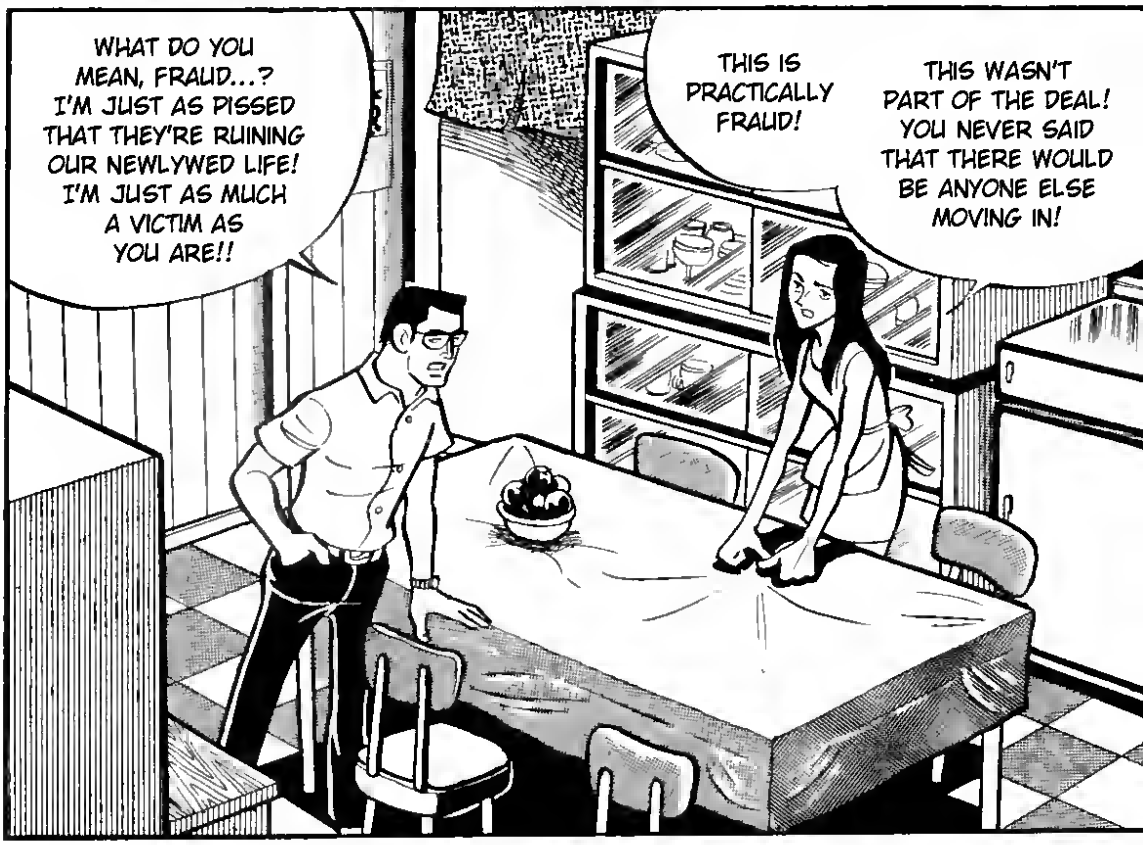
NOW, DON'T BE SO MAD, SHOICHI!
THIS HOUSE WAS CROWDED ENOUGH ALREADY WITH KEIKO MOVING IN!
FATHER, W-WHY DID YOU HAVE TO TAKE THESE TWO CHILDREN IN?
NOW, TAKE THEM TO MASAKO'S ROOM, WILL YOU?
IT'S ONLY HALF A YEAR.. I'LL EXPLAIN LATER.. THIS WON'T BE A BAD ARRANGEMENT FOR YOU.
HEY! LET'S MOVE!!



WHAT IS IT, KEIKO?
HONEY, WE NEED TO TALK.

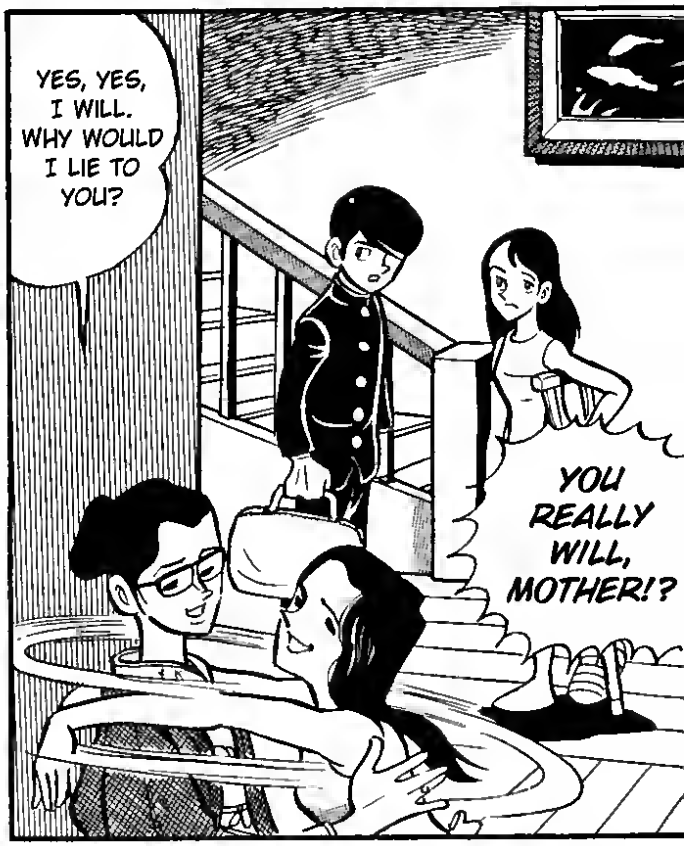

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, FRAUD...? I'M JUST AS PISSED THAT THEY'RE RUINING OUR NEWLYWED LIFE! I'M JUST AS MUCH A VICTIM AS YOU ARE!!
THIS IS PRACTICALLY FRAUD!
THIS WASN'T PART OF THE DEAL! YOU NEVER SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE ANYONE ELSE MOVING IN!

.....
SO QUIT COMPLAINING, ALRIGHT?
DAD'S GONNA TALK TO US ABOUT THIS LATER.

HELLO.
OH, I'LL COMPLAIN ALL I WANT! IN FACT, I'M GOING TO CALL MY PARENTS ABOUT THIS!
LISTEN, YOU LITTLE RUNTS...
JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR, I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU!
M-MOTHER!
KEIKO...
LET ME GO! IF THIS IS HOW IT'S GOING TO BE, THEN I WANT A DIVORCE!
HEY, KEIKO! CUT IT OUT!
I'M REALLY SORRY THAT WE'RE CAUSING YOU TROUBLE WITH OUR OWN PERSONAL PROBLEMS.

WHAT?
AND I'M THINKING OF BUYING YOU THE HAKATA SASH YOU ALWAYS WANTED...
BUT THEY'LL ONLY BE HERE FOR HALF A YEAR, AND WE'LL BE GETTING A HANDSOME SUM OF MONEY WITH THEM.

HEY. YOUR ROOM'S UP ON THE SECOND FLOOR.


YES, YES, I WILL. WHY WOULD I LIE TO YOU?
YOU REALLY WILL, MOTHER!?

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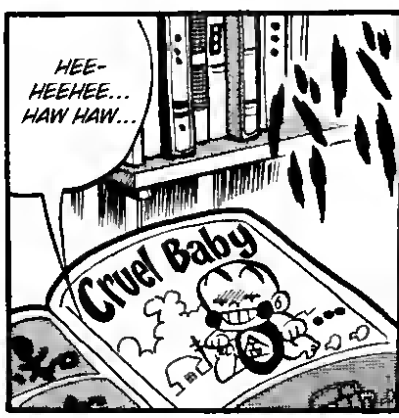
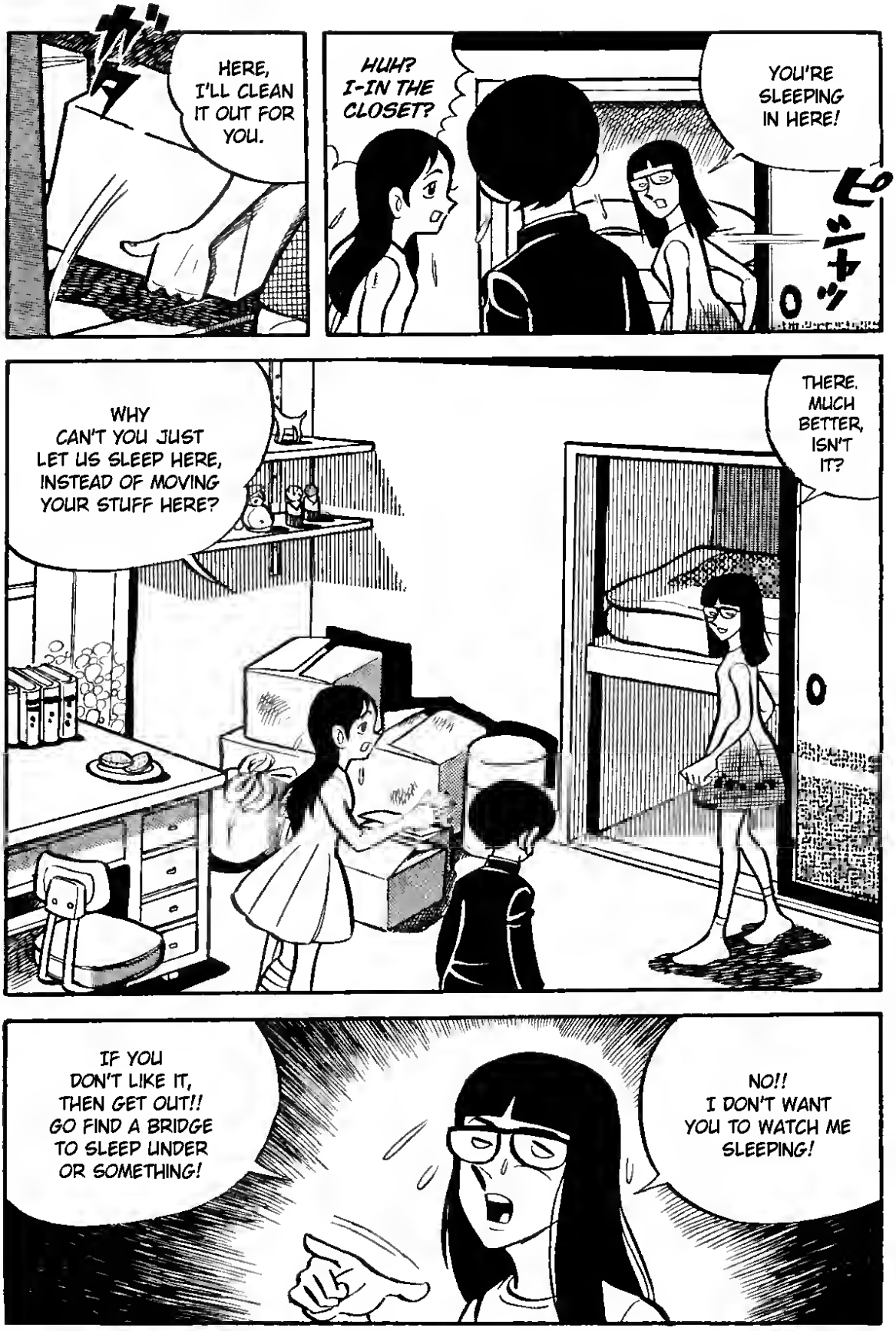
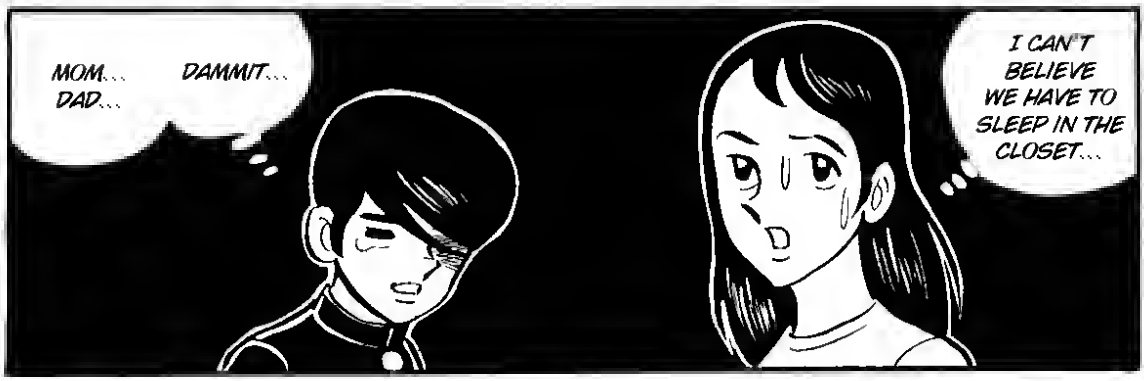
BABY'S SO FUNNY...
munch munch

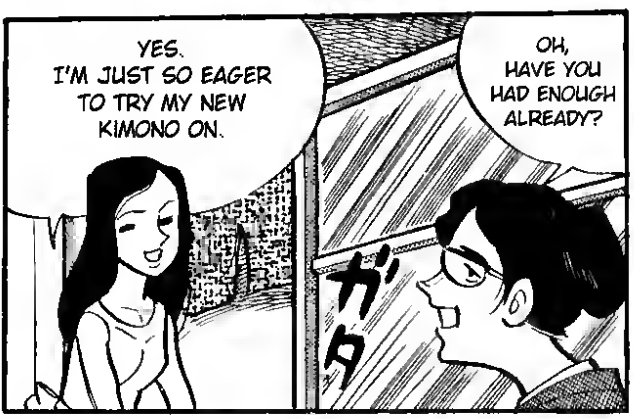

HEE-HEEHEE... HAW HAW...
Cruel Baby

OH, YOU MADE IT!
MASAKO, KEN AND AKO ARE HERE!!
W-WHO IS IT?
THIS ROOM IS ONLY FOUR AND A HALF MATS WIDE!
AND IT'S ALREADY MY CASTLE!
NO! THEY CAN'T STAY HERE!!
HUH? WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THEY'RE GOING TO BE STAYING IN YOUR ROOM FOR THE NEXT HALF A YEAR!!
HMPF!
I HOPE WE CAN GET ALONG, MASAKO.
NO, DUMMY. IT'S FULL OF KEIKO'S STUFF.
ISN'T THE THREE-MAT ROOM OPEN?
OKAY, YOU GUYS...
YOU DECIDE WHERE THEY'RE GONNA SLEEP, MASAKO.


HERE, I'LL CLEAN IT OUT FOR YOU.
HUH? I-IN THE CLOSET?
YOU'RE SLEEPING IN HERE!
ピッ
WHY CAN'T YOU JUST LET US SLEEP HERE, INSTEAD OF MOVING YOUR STUFF HERE?
THERE. MUCH BETTER, ISN'T IT?
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, THEN GET OUT!! GO FIND A BRIDGE TO SLEEP UNDER OR SOMETHING!
NO!! I DON'T WANT YOU TO WATCH ME SLEEPING!

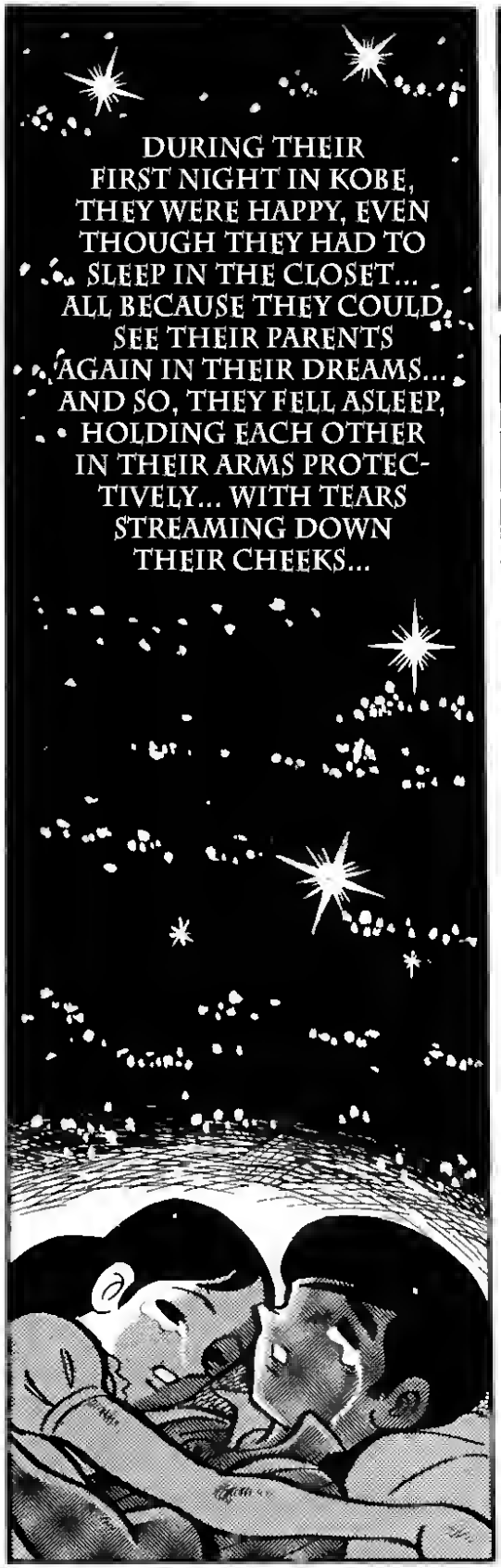

MOM... DAD...
DAMMIT...
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE HAVE TO SLEEP IN THE CLOSET...

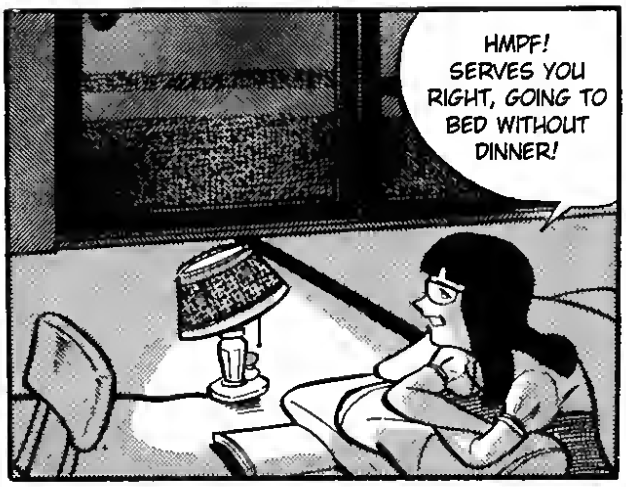
THANK YOU FOR THE FOOD.


YES. I'M JUST SO EAGER TO TRY MY NEW KIMONO ON.
OH, HAVE YOU HAD ENOUGH ALREADY?

SURE WAS! KEIKO'S A GREAT COOK, ISN'T SHE?
PHEW... THAT WAS DELI-CIOUS!
ALRIGHT. I'LL BE RIGHT THERE TO HELP YOU PUT IT ON.
カタ
YES, MOTH-ER.
IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE ALL DONE... MASAKO, GO OUT AND CALL YOUR COUSINS.
STOP ASKING QUESTIONS AND GET IN HERE!!
BECAUSE THE TABLE'S TOO SMALL, DUH!
OKAY, YOU TWO. COME IN FOR DINNER.
HEY, MASAKO, WHY CAN'T WE EAT WITH EVERYBODY ELSE?

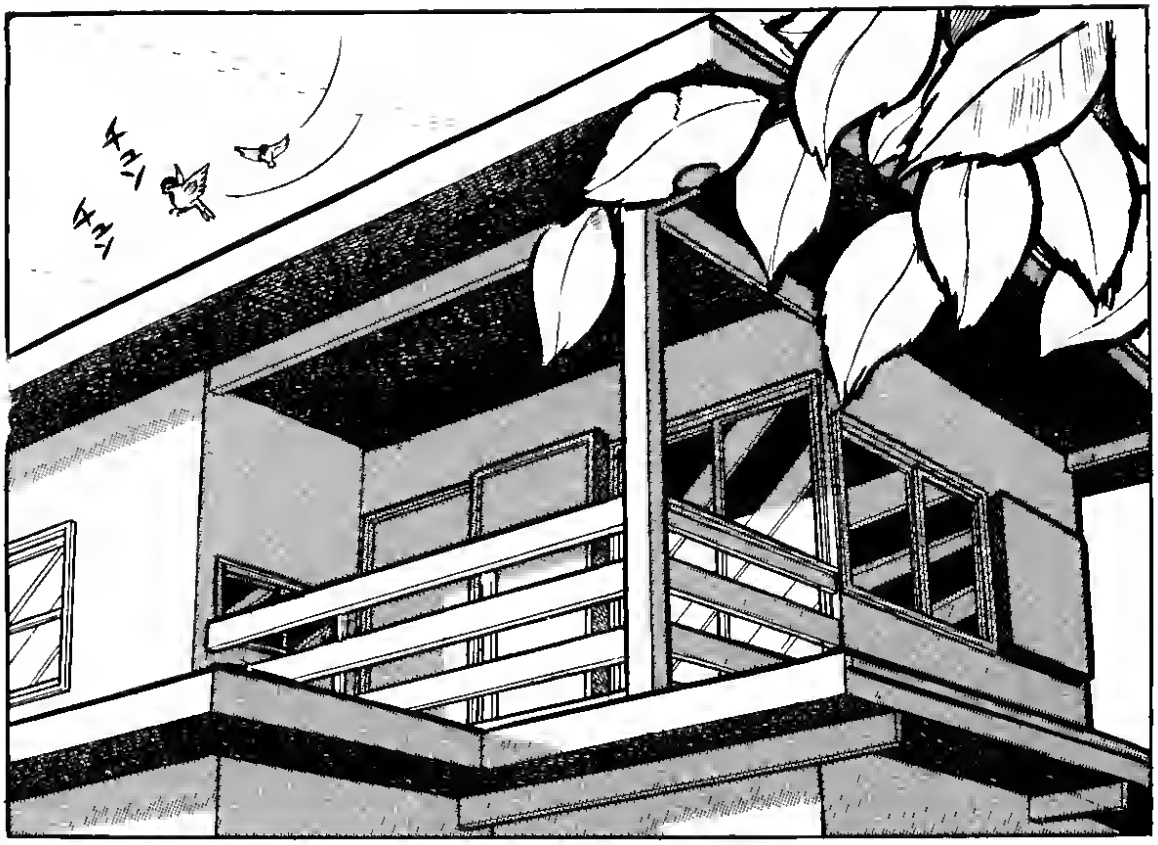
ARE YOU GIVING US SOMEBODY'S LEFTOVERS?
HEY! THIS HAS ALREADY BEEN EATEN!
THERE YOU GO.
OKAY, NOW BARK LIKE A DOG!
NO, NO, NOT YET...
BUT FIRST, YOU'VE GOTTA BARK LIKE A DOG.
OH, YOU DON'T WANT LEFTOVERS? OKAY, I'LL GET YOU A NEW ONE.
KEN!!
Waaaah!
NO
STOP MAKING FUN OF ME!
WE'VE TAKEN YOU INTO OUR HOME TO LOOK AFTER YOU, AND THIS IS HOW YOU REPAY US!?
AHH!


DURING THEIR FIRST NIGHT IN KOBE, THEY WERE HAPPY, EVEN THOUGH THEY HAD TO SLEEP IN THE CLOSET... ALL BECAUSE THEY COULD SEE THEIR PARENTS AGAIN IN THEIR DREAMS... AND SO, THEY FELL ASLEEP, HOLDING EACH OTHER IN THEIR ARMS PROTECTIVELY... WITH TEARS STREAMING DOWN THEIR CHEEKS...


HMPF! SERVES YOU RIGHT, GOING TO BED WITHOUT DINNER!

I HATE THIS, AKO.
BUT KEN, THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE EVER GOTTEN MAD FOR ME. THAT MAKES ME HAPPY.

KEN...
LET'S GO TO SLEEP. THAT WAY WE'LL FORGET HOW HUNGRY WE ARE.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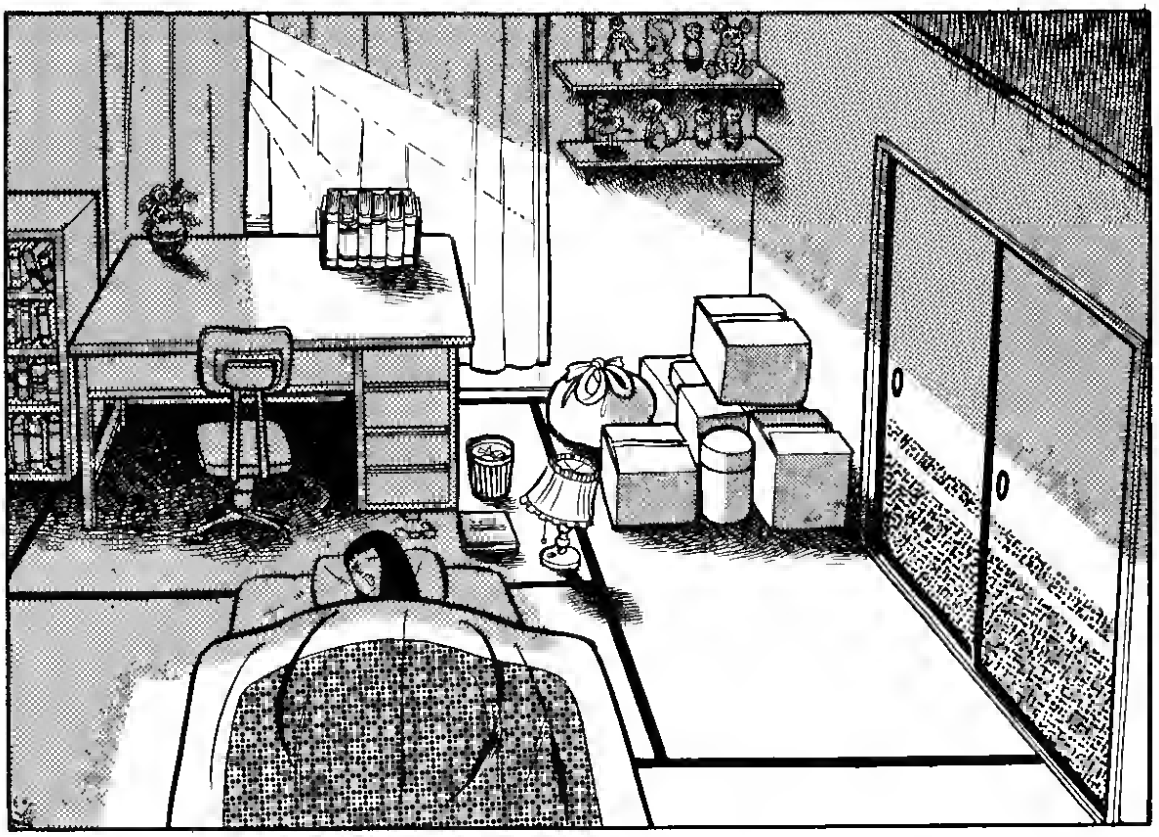
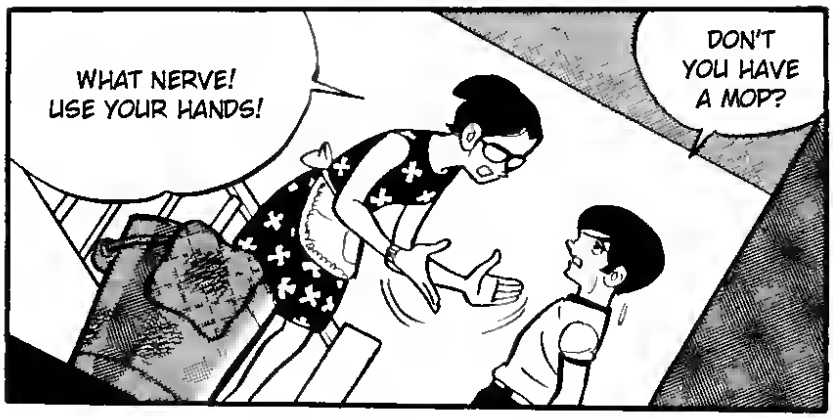
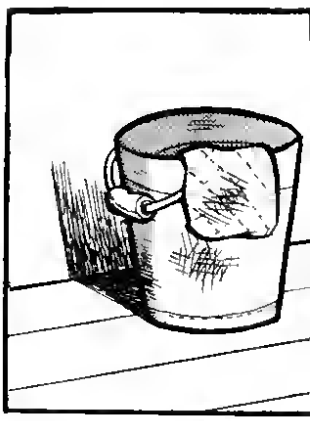
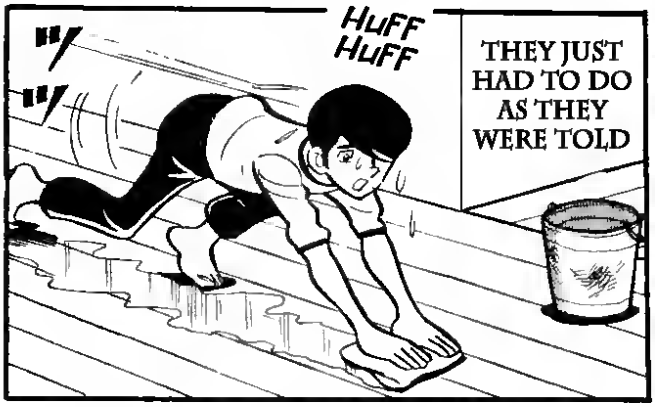


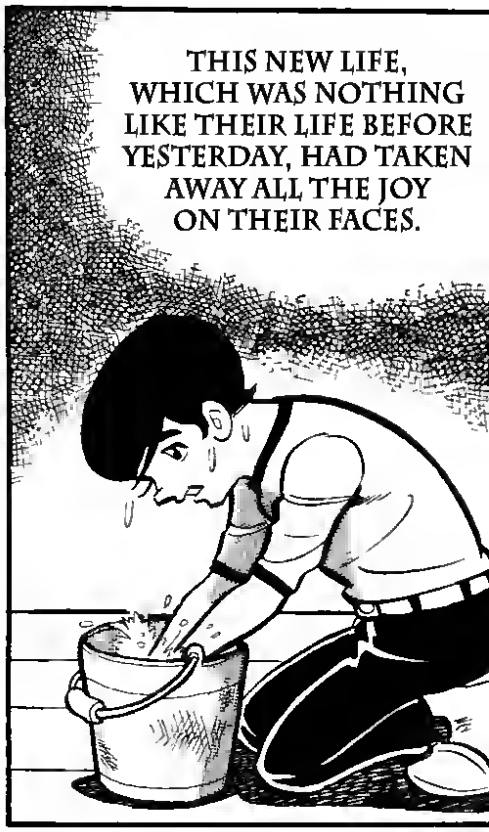
AH... WHERE AM I?
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP SLEEPING FOR!?
YOU'D BETTER WAKE UP AND START CLEANING!
IF YOU'RE GOING TO STAY IN OUR HOUSE, YOU'LL HAVE TO WORK TO EARN YOUR FOOD.
CLEAN? US?
ZZZZZ...

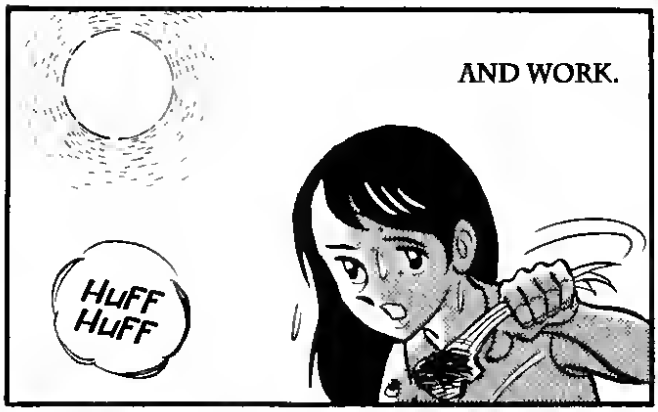
SHE CAN WALK JUST FINE. THE DOCTOR IN TOKYO SAID IT WAS JUST A SCRATCH. DON'T GO MAKING EXCUSES.
BUT AKO'S LEG IS STILL...
KEN, YOU CLEAN THE HALLWAYS. AKO, YOU WEED THE GARDEN.
GET DRESSED AND GET TO IT!
ZZZZZ...
WHY CAN'T THEY MAKE HER DO IT?
KEN...
YOU'D BETTER COME DOWN NOW, OR THERE WILL BE CONSEQUENCES!
I CAN'T GIVE IN TO THIS...

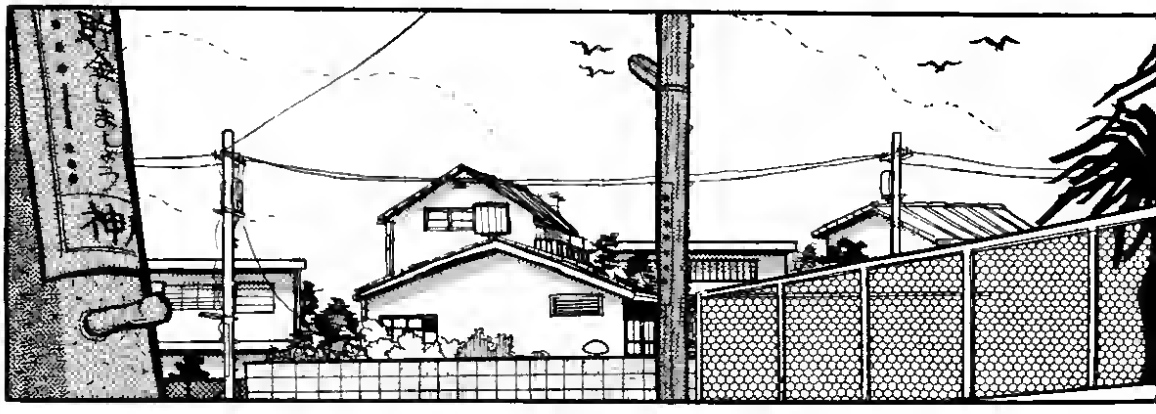

WHAT NERVE! USE YOUR HANDS!
DON'T YOU HAVE A MOP?




HUFF HUFF
THEY JUST HAD TO DO AS THEY WERE TOLD


THIS NEW LIFE, WHICH WAS NOTHING LIKE THEIR LIFE BEFORE YESTERDAY, HAD TAKEN AWAY ALL THE JOY ON THEIR FACES.


AND WORK.
HUFF HUFF



ARE YOU DONE?
YEAH. ONCE I DUMP THIS WATER OUT, I'M DONE.
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I'M ALREADY DONE!
パン パン
WHAT ABOUT YOU, AKO...? WE'D BETTER HURRY, OR WE'LL BE LATE TO SCHOOL.
MASAKO, WHAT ABOUT US?
WHY SHOULD I CARE?
I'M OFF!
ガチャー

OH, RIGHT.
SCHOOL?

I'M TALKING ABOUT SCHOOL.

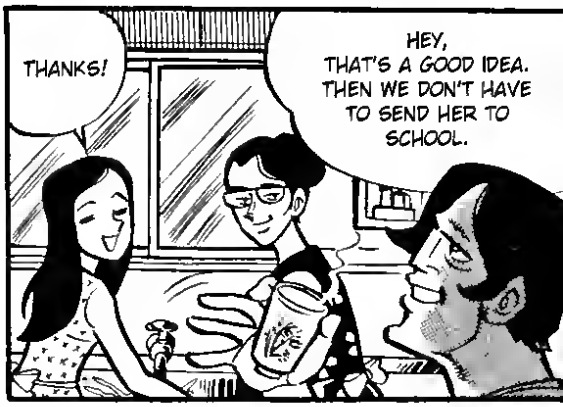
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
FATHER, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT THOSE TWO?

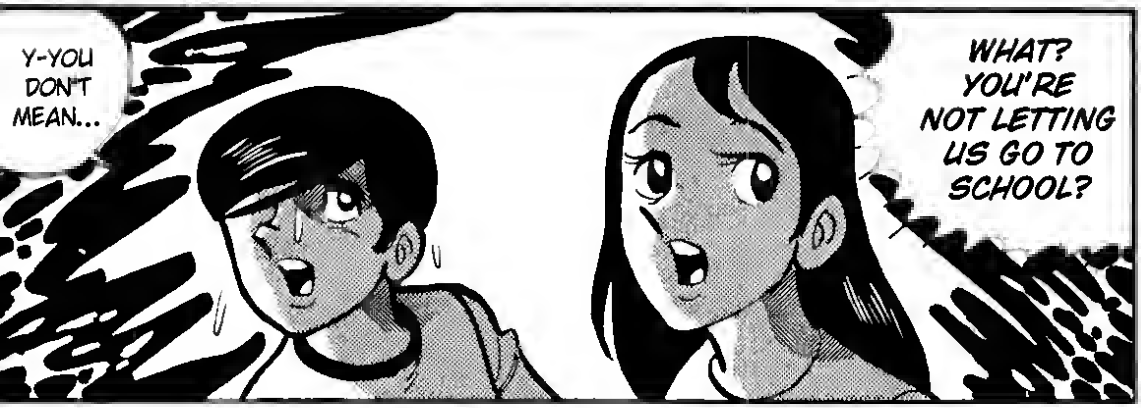
OH, THAT'S PERFECT! WHY DON'T YOU USE AKO?
HEY, MOTHER, I THINK I'D LIKE A MAID.

IT WOULD COST MONEY TO SEND THEM TO SCHOOL... AND IT'S NOT LIKE WE REGISTERED THEM WITH US, SO THEY'LL NEVER KNOW.

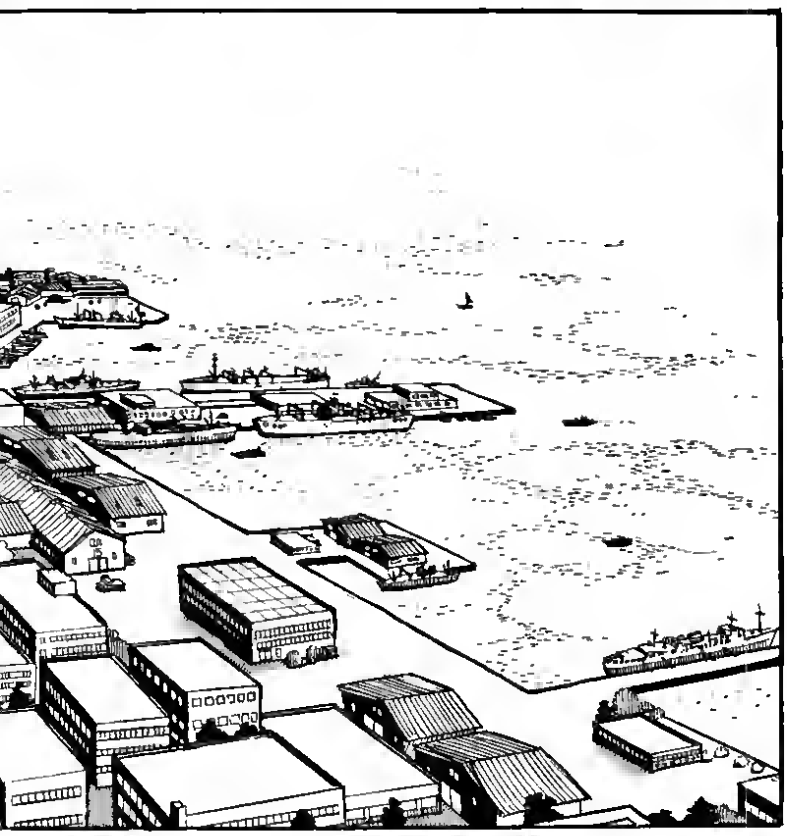
BUT HONEY, WHAT ABOUT KEN?

I'LL GET HIM STARTED AT MY RESTAURANT, OF COURSE.


THANKS!
HEY, THAT'S A GOOD IDEA. THEN WE DON'T HAVE TO SEND HER TO SCHOOL.


Y-YOU DON'T MEAN...
WHAT? YOU'RE NOT LETTING US GO TO SCHOOL?

AND THOSE WHO DON'T WORK DON'T DESERVE TO EAT!
OF COURSE NOT. WE'RE ALREADY PAYING ENOUGH TO FEED YOU HERE.

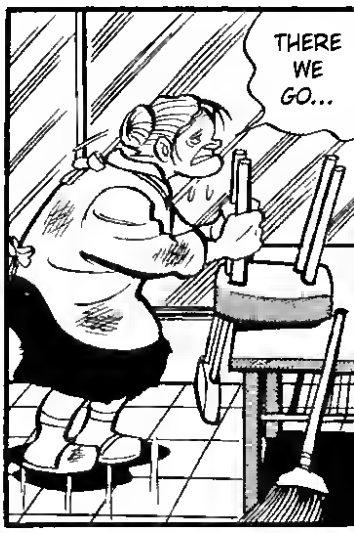


NOW GET READY TO GO!

Y-YES, SIR.

RESTAURANT
Blue Harbor

HEY, HEAD CHEF! YOU SAID YOU WANTED MORE MONEY SO YOU COULD HIRE MORE STAFF, RIGHT?
YEAH... WE CAN BARELY KEEP RUNNING THE PLACE AS IT IS!


THERE WE GO...

THEY'VE GOT AN OLD LADY WORKING HERE!

YOU GOT IT, SIR!
WELL, INSTEAD OF THAT, WHY DON'T YOU GET THIS KID TO WASH DISHES...? HE'LL WORK TWICE AS HARD AS ANY ADULT.
HUH?
HEY, GRANNY! YOU CAN JUST TAKE CARE OF THE CLEANING!
BUT IN RETURN, I'M DOCKING YOUR PAY BY 100 YEN A DAY!
LISTEN. YOU'RE GONNA START BY WASHING THE DISHES.
HEY! PAY ATTEN-TION, KID!
YOUR JOB'S A LOT EASIER NOW THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO WASH THE DISHES!
I DON'T SEE HOW IT'S CRUEL!
H-HOW COULD YOU BE SO CRUEL?

ANYTHING?
HEHEHE...
ALRIGHT!!
I'LL DO ANYTHING TO MAKE UP FOR IT!
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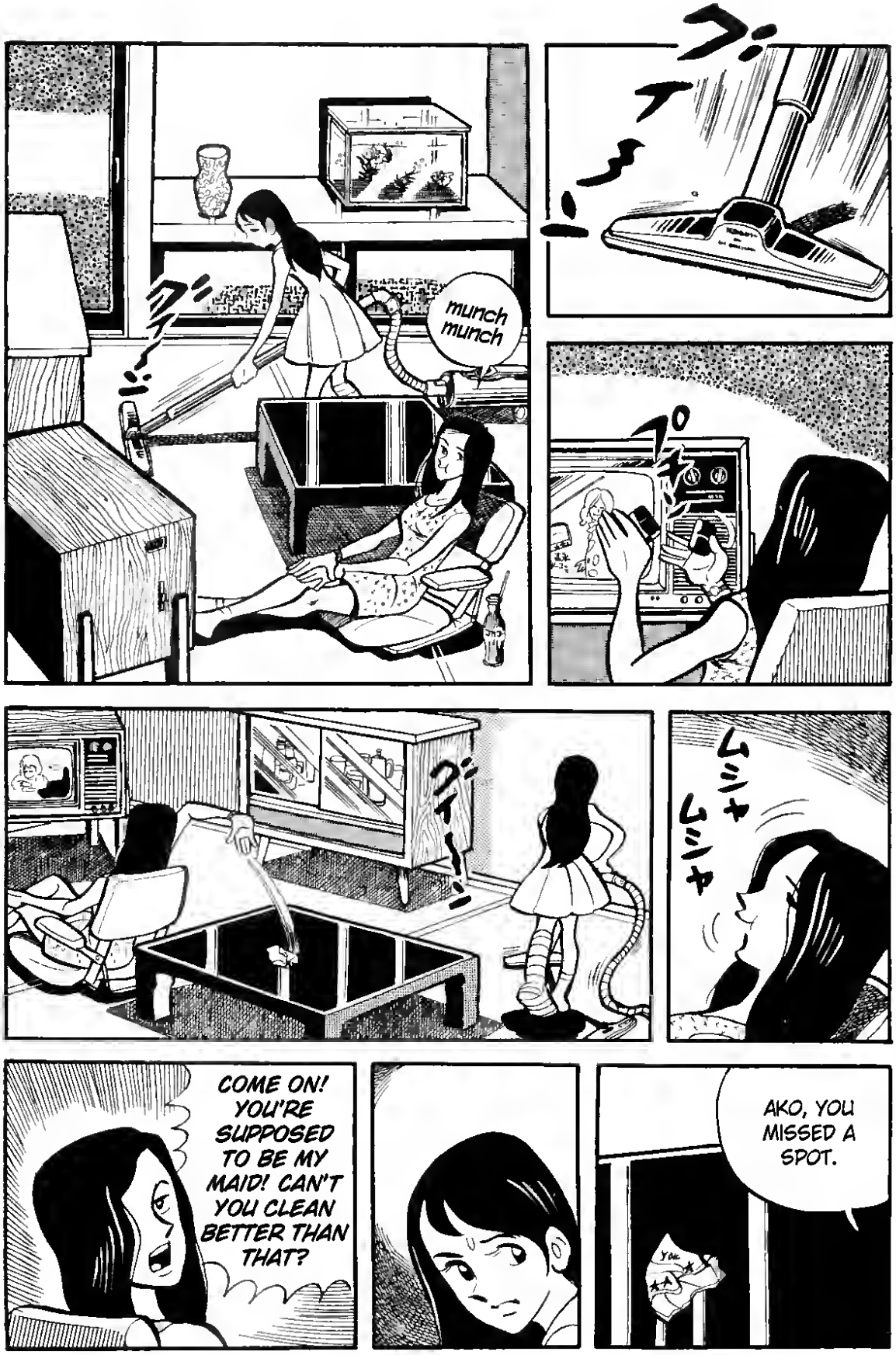
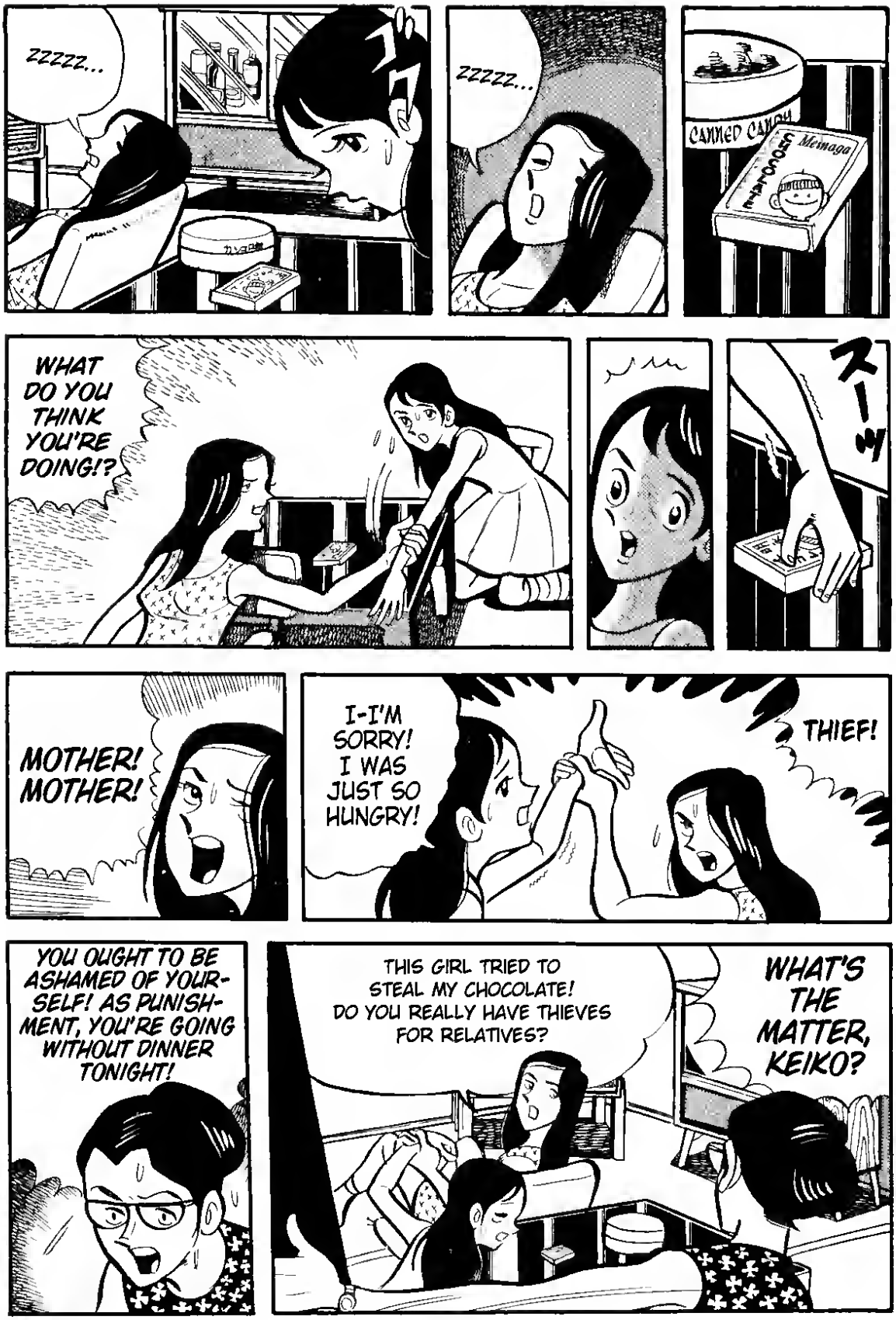
I'LL GO FIND YOU ANOTHER JOB TO DO.
OH, NO, DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU.
HUH?
I'M SO SORRY, GRANNY.
WHY, THAT NASTY SCUM-BAG!
GRANNY...
COME ON. WHY DON'T I TEACH YOU HOW TO WASH THE DISHES?

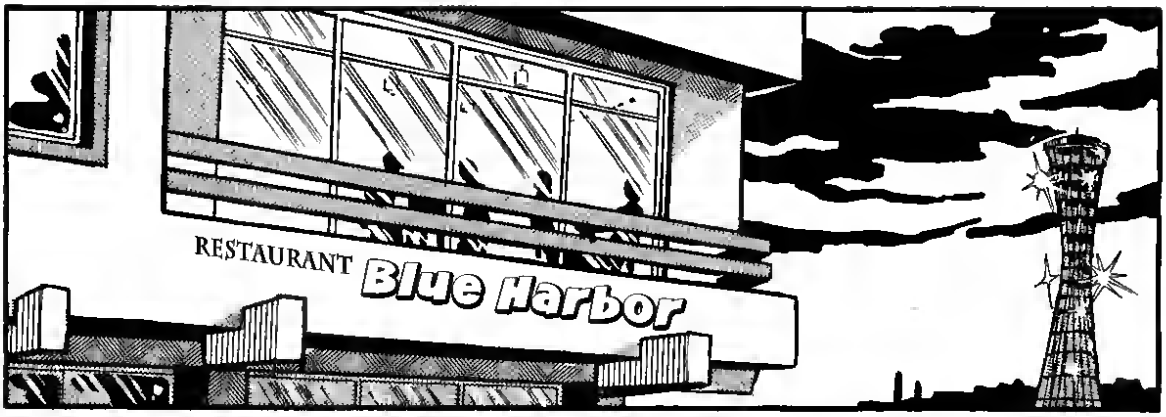
WELL, WHAT ARE YOU DOING, WORKING AT A PLACE LIKE THIS?
NO.
YOU'VE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE, HAVE YOU?
MY MOM AND DAD DIED, AND I WAS SENT TO LIVE WITH UNCLE KENJIRO.
IT WASN'T MY CHOICE.
YOU POOR THING... BUT WHAT ABOUT SCHOOL?
AND I WAS ALMOST FINISHED WITH MIDDLE SCHOOL, TOO...
THEY'RE NOT LETTING ME GO.
YES.
OHHH... SO YOU'RE THE OWNER'S NEPHEW FROM TOKYO, ARE YOU?
WHAT'RE YOU DAWDLING FOR? MOVE THOSE HANDS!!


munch munch
ムシャ ムシャ
COME ON! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE MY MAID! CAN'T YOU CLEAN BETTER THAN THAT?
AKO, YOU MISSED A SPOT.

O-OKAY.
HERE YOU GO.
Don't break the plates!!
RESTAURANT
Blue Harbor
HEY, WHAT'RE YOU DOING!?
YOU CALL THAT DIRTY? IT'S GOOD ENOUGH TO SERVE BACK TO THE CUSTOMERS!!
MORON!
B-BECAUSE THERE WERE LEFTOVERS ON IT! IT WAS DIRTY!
WHY ARE YOU THROWING THAT OUT?

NOT SO LOUD, YOU IDIOT!!
BUT THEY'RE LEFTOVERS!
O... OOPS...
WHAT A BUNCH OF HOPELESS MORONS...
ALRIGHT, THEN YOU'RE GOING WITHOUT DINNER TONIGHT!
YOU DON'T!?
B... B-BUT I DON'T HAVE 100 YEN!
YOU'D BETTER PAY FOR THAT, KID! GIMME 100 YEN, RIGHT NOW!
Chuma Kenjiro
B...BUT I DIDN'T DO IT ON PURPOSE... W...WHY IS THIS HAPPENING TO ME?

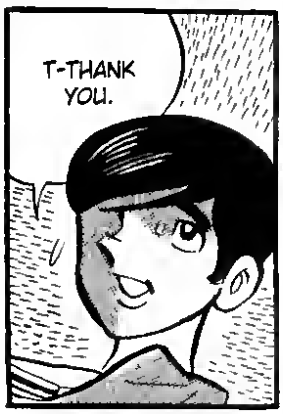

ZZZZZ...
ZZZZZ...
CANNED CANDY
Mermaid
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!?
スーッ
MOTHER! MOTHER!
I-I'M SORRY! I WAS JUST SO HUNGRY!
THIEF!
YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF! AS PUNISHMENT, YOU'RE GOING WITHOUT DINNER TONIGHT!
THIS GIRL TRIED TO STEAL MY CHOCOLATE! DO YOU REALLY HAVE THIEVES FOR RELATIVES?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, KEIKO?

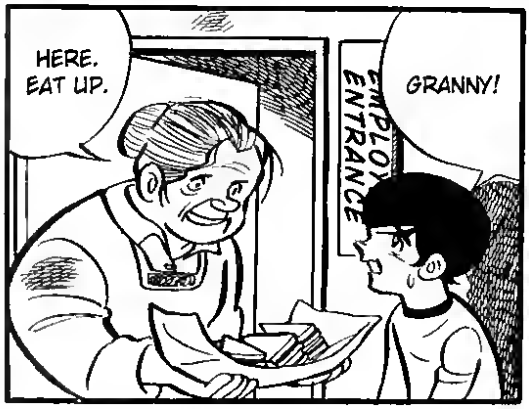

RESTAURANT Blue Harbor

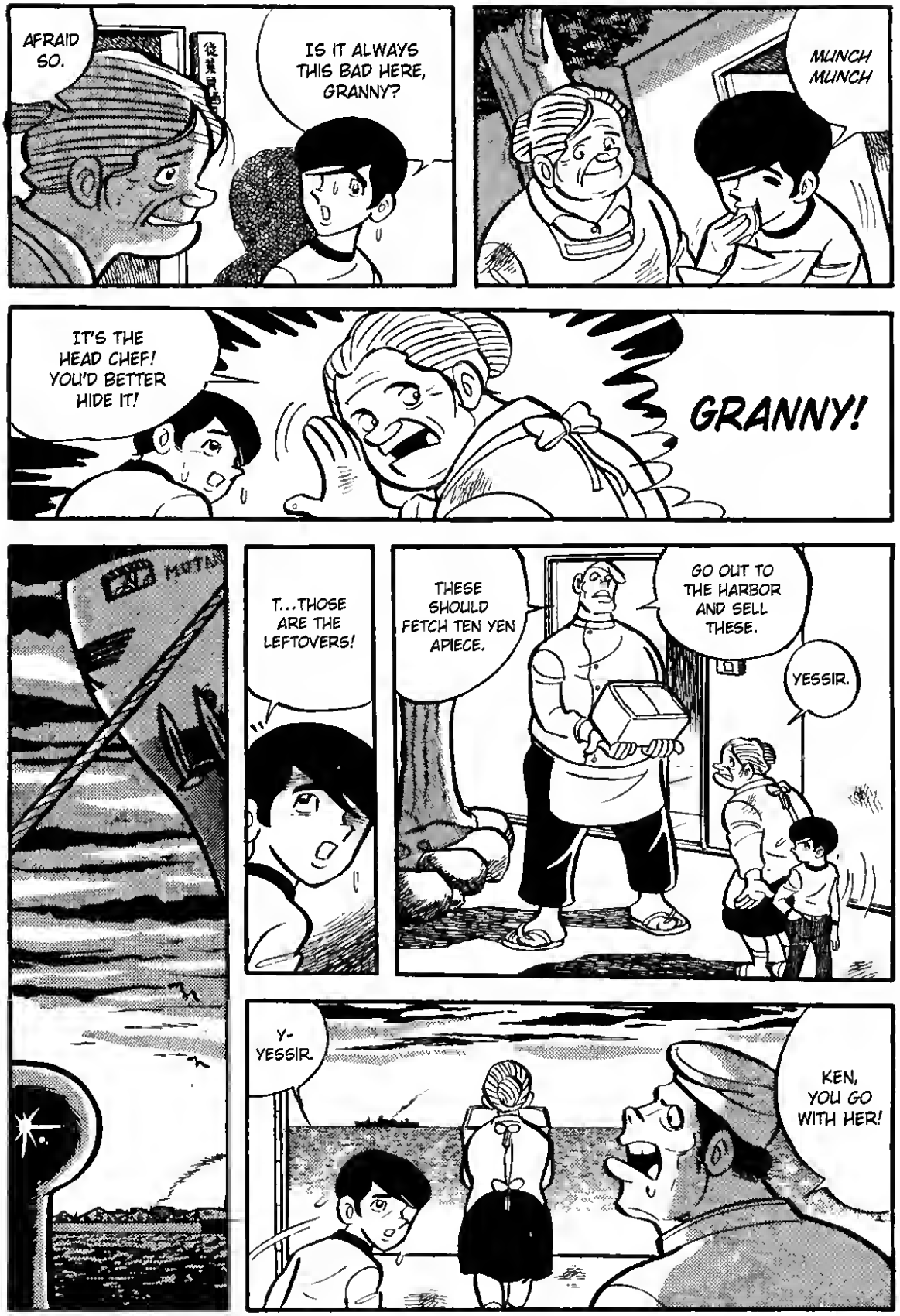
RESTAURANT
Blue Harbor

I'M SO HUNGRY...

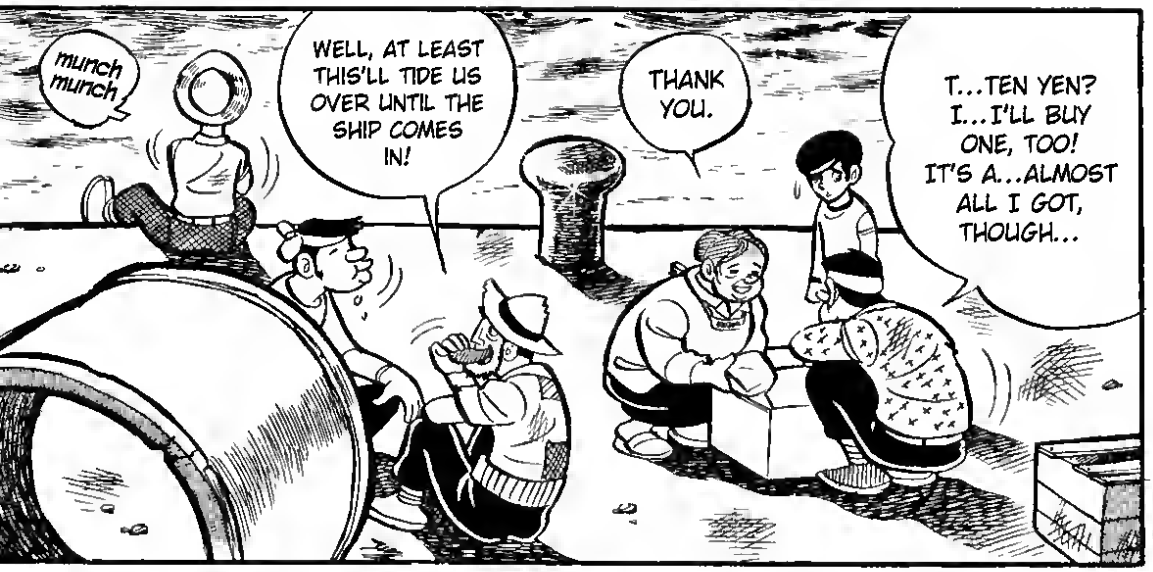
WHAT'S TAKING YOU SO LONG? EAT UP AND GET BACK TO WORK! YOU WON'T GO FAR IF YOU TAKE TOO LONG TO TALK BACK, TAKE DUMPS, OR EAT!!
Y-YES SIR!
オド
オド

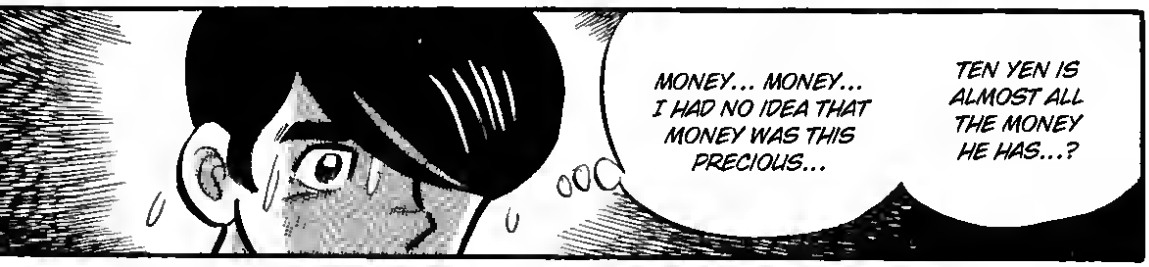

T-THANK YOU.

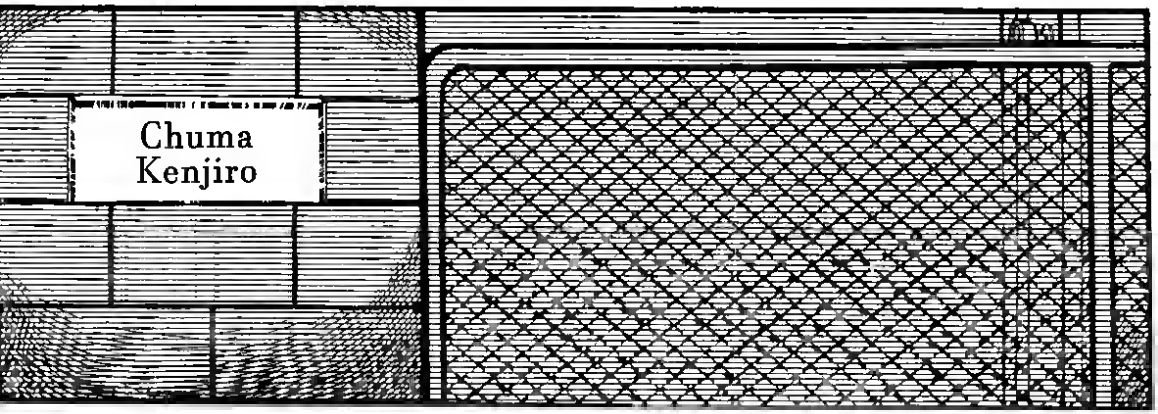

HERE. EAT UP.
GRANNY!
EMPLOYEES ENTRANCE


AFRAID SO.
IS IT ALWAYS THIS BAD HERE, GRANNY?
MUNCH MUNCH
IT'S THE HEAD CHEF! YOU'D BETTER HIDE IT!
GRANNY!
T...THOSE ARE THE LEFTOVERS!
THESE SHOULD FETCH TEN YEN APIECE.
GO OUT TO THE HARBOR AND SELL THESE.
YESSIR.
Y-YESSIR.
KEN, YOU GO WITH HER!

FOOD SCRAPS FOR SALE! TEN YEN APIECE!
I'LL HAVE ONE, GRANNY!
AND THEY LOOK SO GOOD!
DAMN, THAT'S A STEAL!
...I GUESS I'VE HAD IT WAY TOO GOOD.
...I HAD NO IDEA THAT ANYONE LIVED LIKE THIS.
THEY THINK LEFTOVERS ARE A STEAL... AND LOOK GOOD...?


munch munch
WELL, AT LEAST THIS'LL TIDE US OVER UNTIL THE SHIP COMES IN!
THANK YOU.
T...TEN YEN? I...I'LL BUY ONE, TOO! IT'S A...ALMOST ALL I GOT, THOUGH...


MONEY... MONEY... I HAD NO IDEA THAT MONEY WAS THIS PRECIOUS...
TEN YEN IS ALMOST ALL THE MONEY HE HAS...?


Chuma
Kenjiro

I'M SO TIRED...

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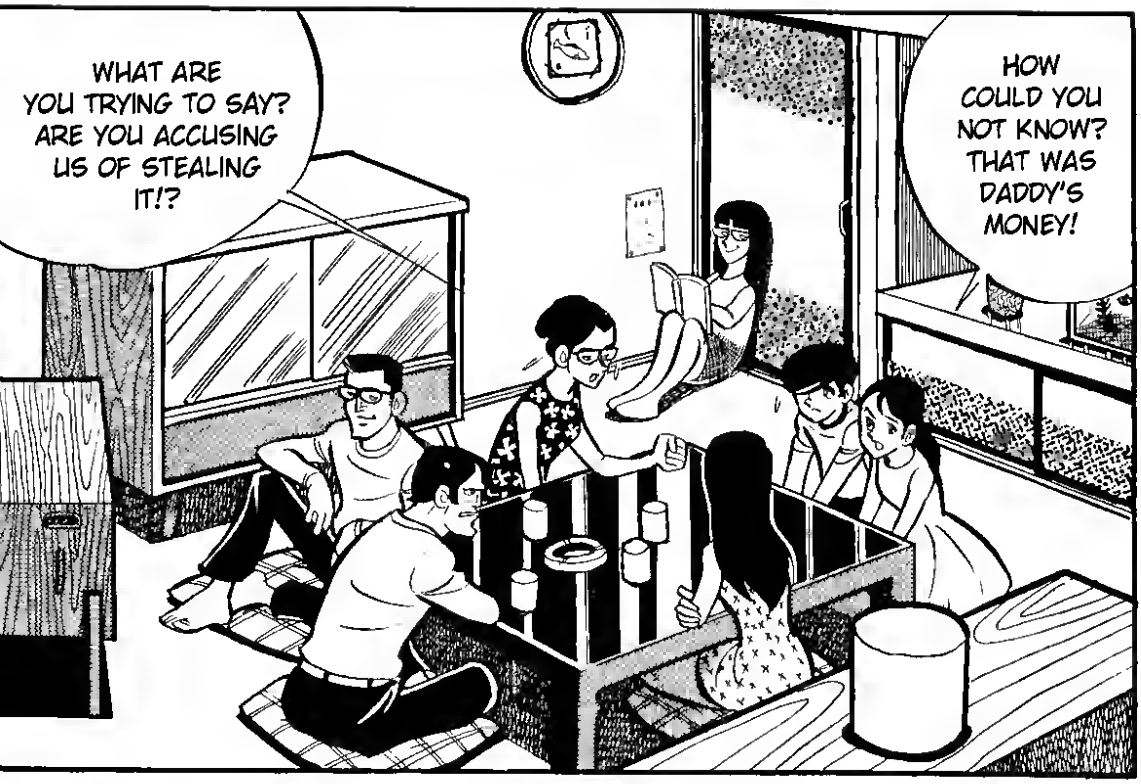
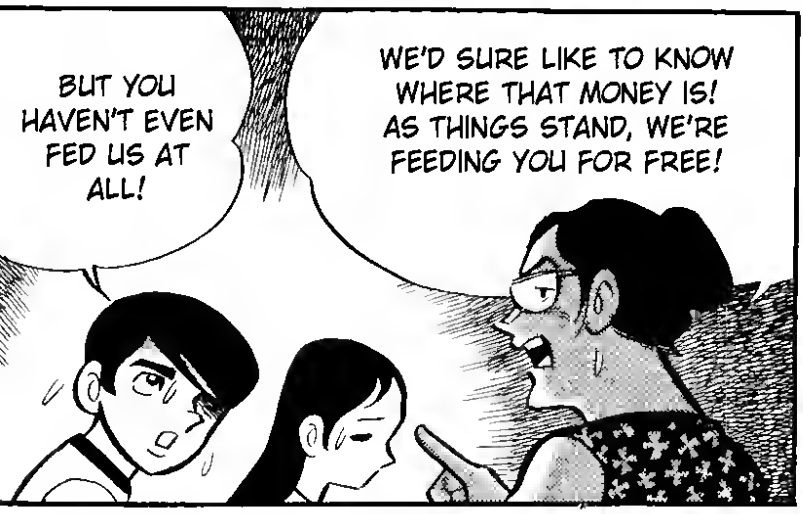
ドボ

WHAT!?
THEY'RE NOT LETTING ME EAT!
AKO! WHAT'S THE MATTER?
KEN!
SO WHERE'D YOUR SAVINGS GO?
MOMMY HELD ON TO MY SAVINGS FOR ME.
BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY...
THEN WHY DON'T YOU GO BUY SOME BREAD?
THEY BROUGHT US HERE RIGHT AFTER MOMMY AND DADDY'S FUNERAL...
I DON'T KNOW. MAYBE UNCLE KNOWS WHERE IT IS.
OKAY. LET'S GO ASK.
THAT'S NOT ALL! I DON'T KNOW WHERE DADDY'S MONEY WENT, EITHER!
SO YOU THINK THAT UNCLE HAS IT?

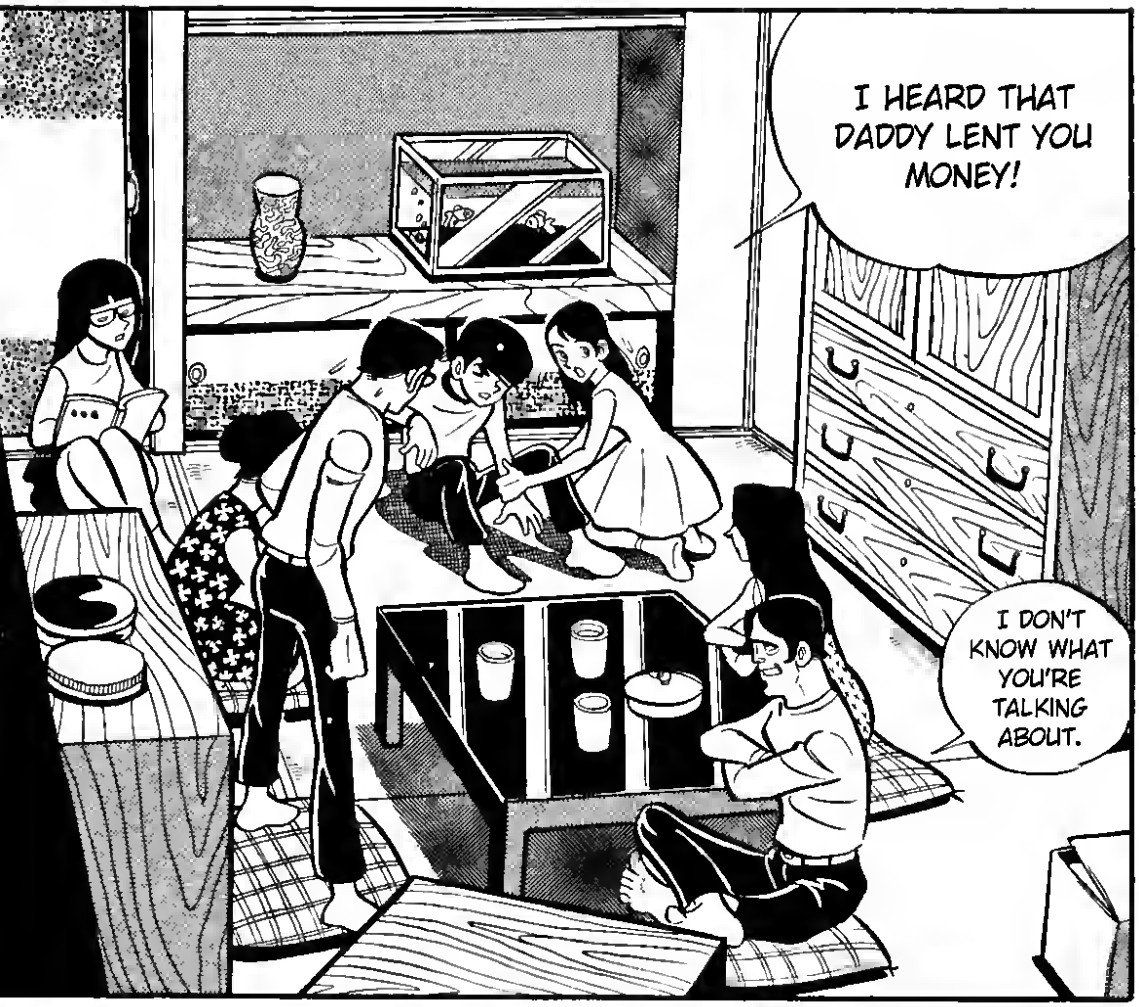
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT MONEY!!
WHAT!?

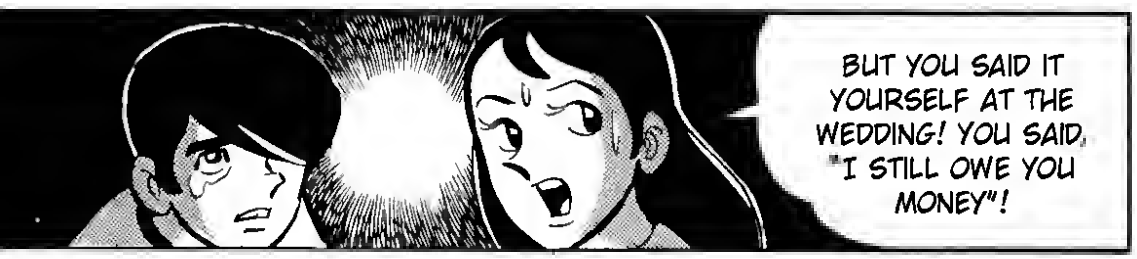

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY? ARE YOU ACCUSING US OF STEALING IT!?
HOW COULD YOU NOT KNOW? THAT WAS DADDY'S MONEY!

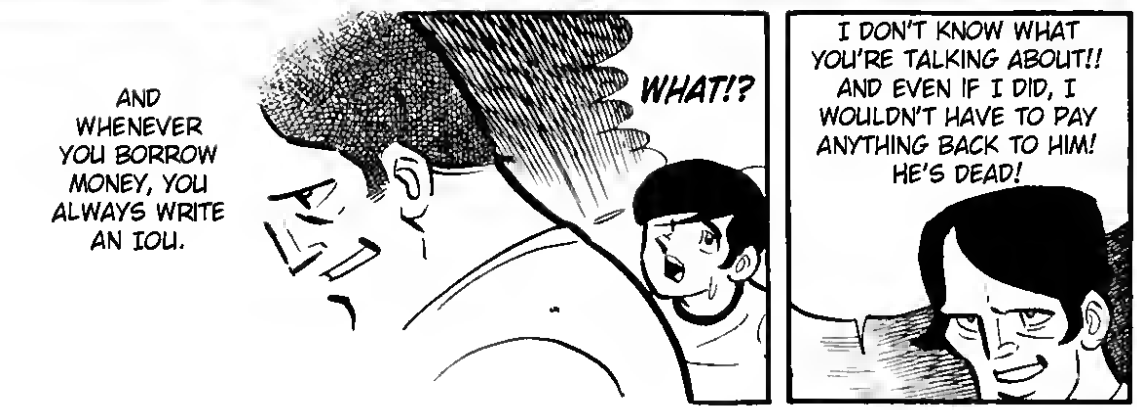

BUT YOU HAVEN'T EVEN FED US AT ALL!
WE'D SURE LIKE TO KNOW WHERE THAT MONEY IS! AS THINGS STAND, WE'RE FEEDING YOU FOR FREE!

WE JUST WANT TO KNOW WHERE IT IS. THAT'S ALL.

ARE YOU ACCUSING US OF BEING THIEVES!?
KEN!!
WE WANT THAT MONEY SO WE CAN EAT! PLEASE GIVE IT BACK!
B... But I don't have any proof...
ALRIGHT, SPIT IT OUT! SHOW ME YOUR PROOF THAT FATHER STOLE FROM YOU!
AHH!
IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY PROOF, THEN SHUT UP!!
KEN!


I HEARD THAT DADDY LENT YOU MONEY!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.


BUT YOU SAID IT YOURSELF AT THE WEDDING! YOU SAID, "I STILL OWE YOU MONEY"!

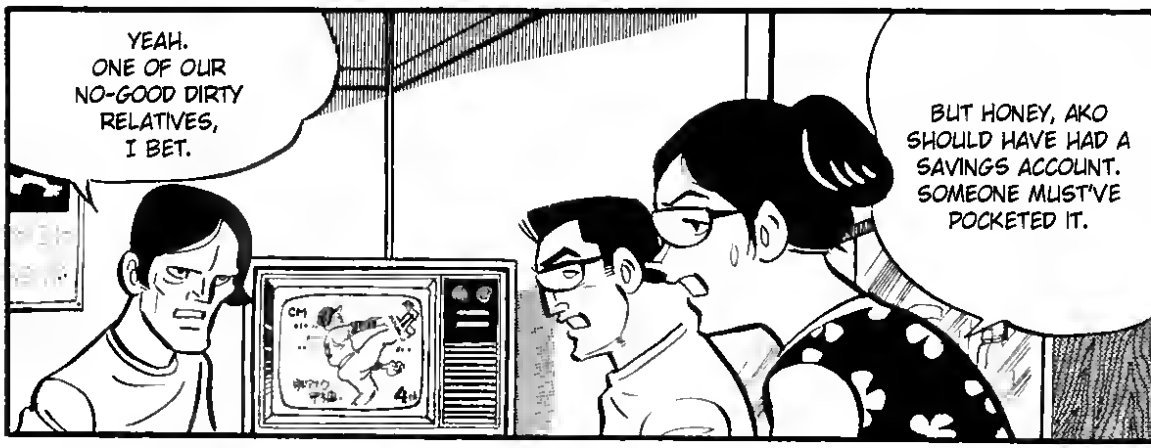

AND WHENEVER YOU BORROW MONEY, YOU ALWAYS WRITE AN IOU.
WHAT!?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!! AND EVEN IF I DID, I WOULDN'T HAVE TO PAY ANYTHING BACK TO HIM! HE'S DEAD!

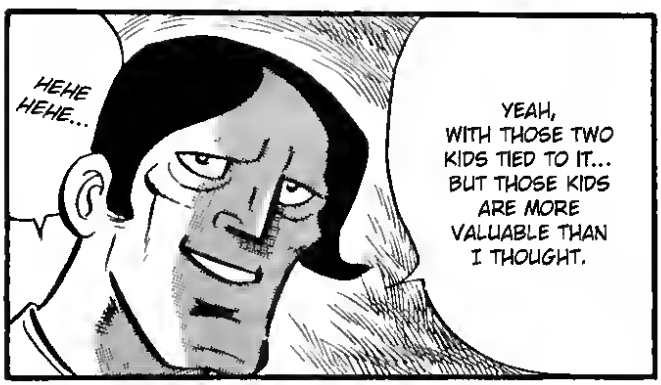
BUT THERE IS NO IOU, SO I HAVE NO LEGAL OBLIGATION TO PAY ANYTHING BACK!!

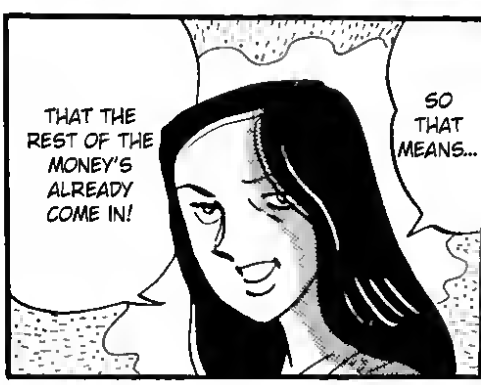
WHAT AN IDIOT.

COME WITH ME, AKO.

KEN...
FINE. WE WON'T ASK YOU FOR ANYTHING ANYMORE.


YEAH. ONE OF OUR NO-GOOD DIRTY RELATIVES, I BET.
BUT HONEY, AKO SHOULD HAVE HAD A SAVINGS ACCOUNT. SOMEONE MUST'VE POCKETED IT.

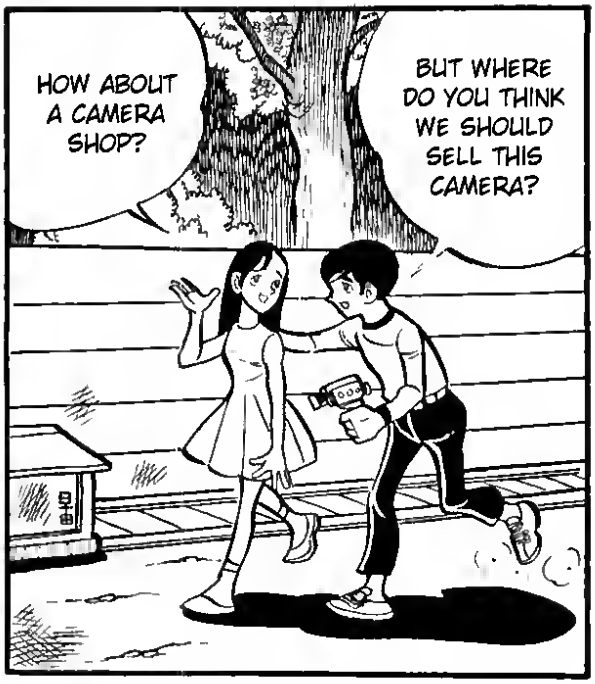

HEHE HEHE...
YEAH, WITH THOSE TWO KIDS TIED TO IT... BUT THOSE KIDS ARE MORE VALUABLE THAN I THOUGHT.


THAT THE REST OF THE MONEY'S ALREADY COME IN!
SO THAT MEANS...

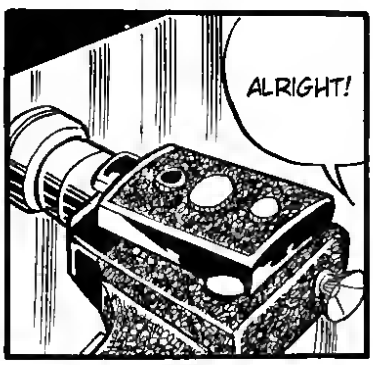
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, KEN?
I'M GONNA SELL MY CAMERA.
I KNOW, BUT IF I DON'T, WE'LL GET SICK!
BUT THAT'S THE CAMERA THAT MOMMY AND DADDY BOUGHT YOU RIGHT BEFORE THEY DIED!
D... Dammit!
OHOHOHO! YOU GOT THE LEAD ROLE IN THE SCHOOL PLAY...? WELL DONE, MASAKO!
YOU DON'T THINK THEY...
THAT'S WEIRD. IT'S NOT HERE. I WAS PRETTY SURE THEY PUT OUR STUFF IN HERE...
ラーメン

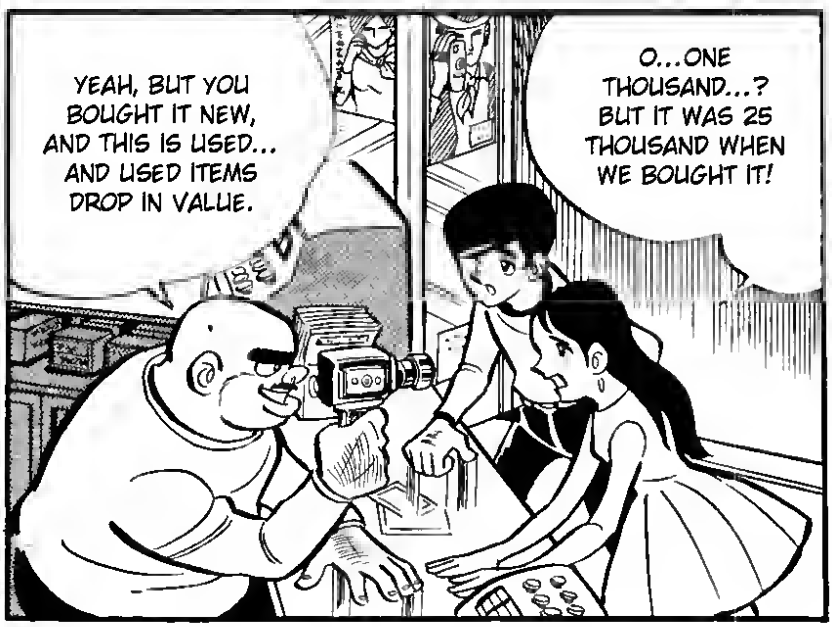
AHH!
Sigh...
スー
THAT'S GOTTA BE IT!
ガラ
THERE IT IS!
LET'S EAT OURSELVES FULL!
IS YOUR LEG OKAY?
YEAH, NO PROBLEM!
SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT? AN OMELET? A PORK CUTLET?
LET'S GO, AKO!
DAD! DAD!
AHH! MY CAMERA!

カメラの新宿


HOW ABOUT A CAMERA SHOP?
BUT WHERE DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD SELL THIS CAMERA?

REALLY? FOR HOW MUCH?
カメラ
I'LL BUY IT OFF YOU!


ALRIGHT!


YEAH, BUT YOU BOUGHT IT NEW, AND THIS IS USED... AND USED ITEMS DROP IN VALUE.
O...ONE THOUSAND...? BUT IT WAS 25 THOUSAND WHEN WE BOUGHT IT!

ONE THOUSAND YEN?
HOW ABOUT...

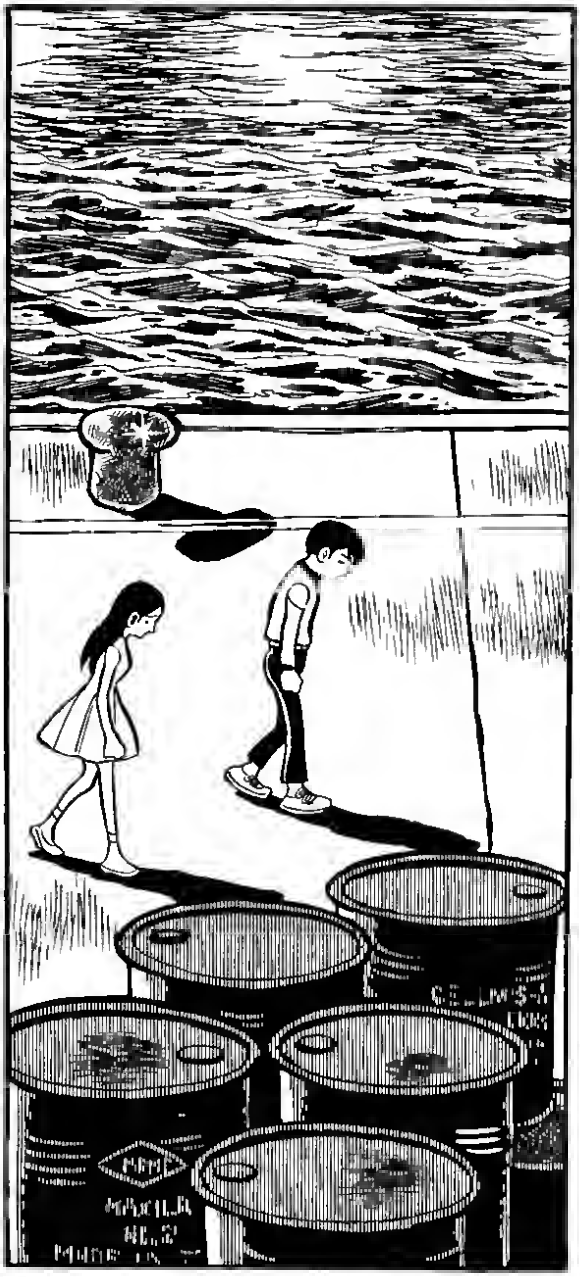
B-BUT WE HAVEN'T EVEN USED IT ONCE!
KEN!
LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING ABOUT MERCHANDISE, KIDDO. EVERY TIME AN ARTICLE CHANGES HANDS, IT'S WORTH LESS AND LESS.
UNN-NNGH...
DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU'VE USED IT OR NOT, KIDDO. ONCE YOU TAKE IT OUT OF THE BOX, IT'S USED.
OKAY, FINE. WE'LL SELL IT.
I'M NOT BUYING IT FOR ANYTHING MORE THAN A THOUSAND YEN.
KEN!!
...
RIGHT HERE!

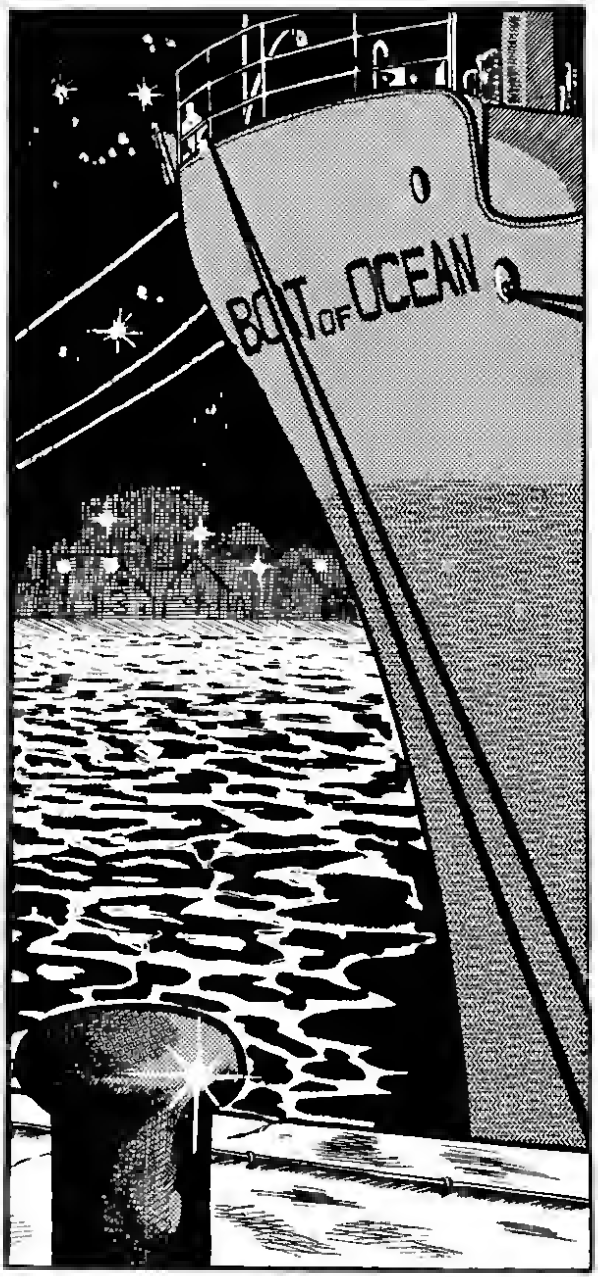
LURK!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? IT'S MY CAMERA!
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT CAMERA?
BUT DAD GAVE IT TO ME!!
HE'S RIGHT! YOU DON'T HAVE A CAMERA!
WHAT!? NO! DAD BOUGHT IT FOR ME!
IT'S MINE!
YOU'RE LYING!!
KEN!!
YOU'RE LYING! YOU FOUND IT IN THE SHED! IT'S MINE!!
IT'S ON MY PROPERTY... THAT MEANS THAT EVERYTHING IN THAT SHED IS MINE. OR WHAT, DOES THAT CAMERA HAVE YOUR NAME ON IT?
TELL ME, WHOSE PROPERTY WAS THAT SHED ON?

Y-YOU GOT IT, SIR!
HEY! THAT CAMERA IS NOT FOR SALE!
THAT LITTLE RASCAL THOUGHT HE COULD STEAL MY CAMERA!
I THOUGHT SOMETHING SEEMED FISHY HERE, SO I DECIDED I'D LOWBALL THEM, BUT THEY SAID THEY'D SELL IT ANYWAY... AND NOW I SEE WHY. THIS WAS STOLEN, WASN'T IT?
I SHOULDA KNOWN.
ARE YOU STILL GOING ON ABOUT THAT?
IT'S MINE!!
FUJICA
HERE, YOU CAN HAVE IT BACK.
UN-NGH...
THIEF!
YOU IDIOT!

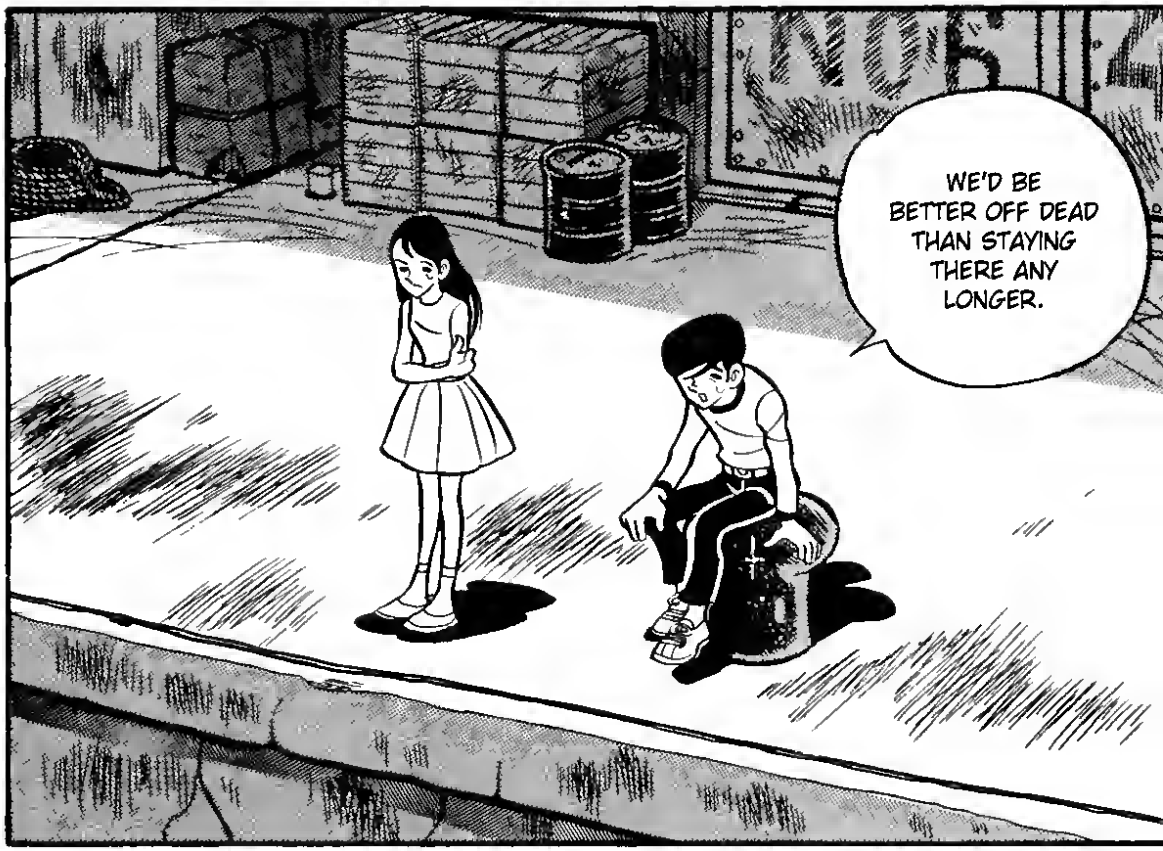
HOW DARE YOU CALL ME... A THIEF...
S-STOP! THAT'S MY MERCHAN-DISE!
AHH!
YOU MORON!!
W... Why, you little...

THAT PIECE OF...
DAD!
ガチ
海
さくらカラー
AKO!!
EXPO
ダダダ
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO COMPENSATE ANYONE FOR!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE. YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO COMPENSATE ME FOR THOSE BROKEN CAMERAS.
DAMN THAT KEN!!
URK!
THOSE THINGS ON MY SHELVES AREN'T CAMERAS. THEY'RE MONEY!
YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST WALK AWAY, HUH?

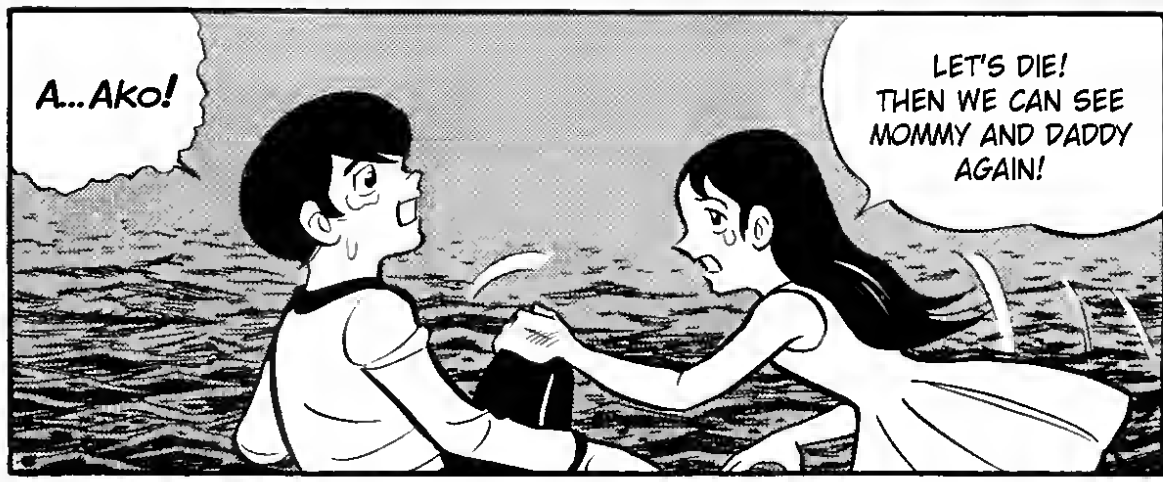


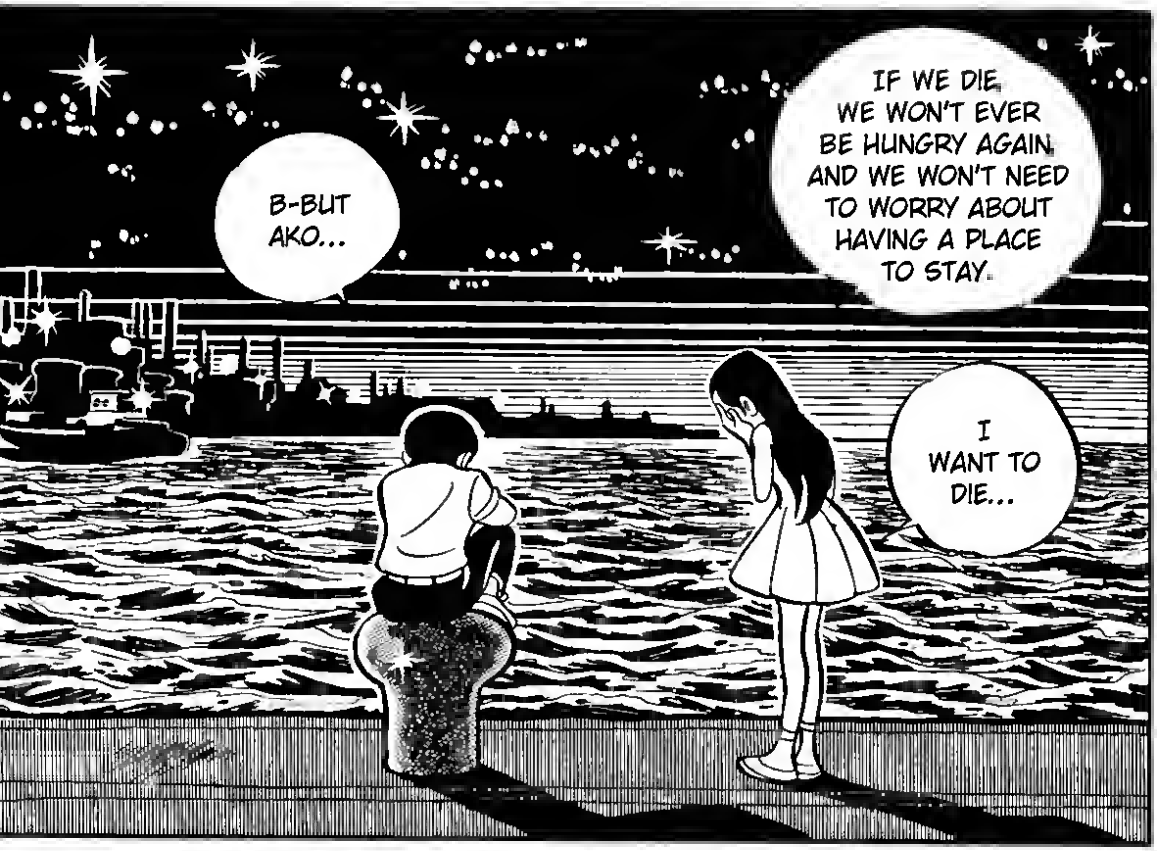

BOAT OF OCEAN

WHAT DO WE DO NOW, KEN? WE CAN'T GO BACK TO UNCLE'S HOUSE AFTER WHAT YOU DID.
IF ONLY I KNEW THIS WAS GONNA HAPPEN, I WOULD'VE PUT SOME MONEY ASIDE.


WE'D BE BETTER OFF DEAD THAN STAYING THERE ANY LONGER.

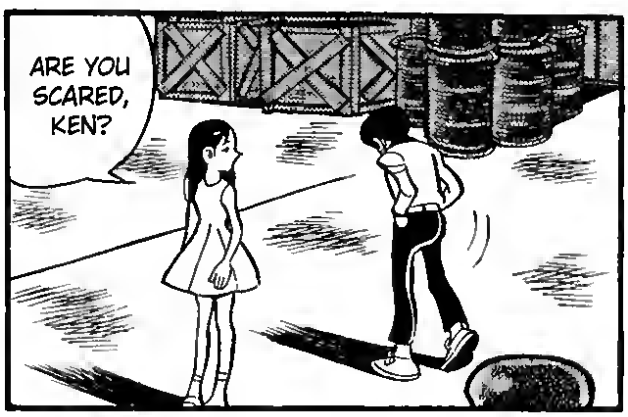
WHAT?
KEN...

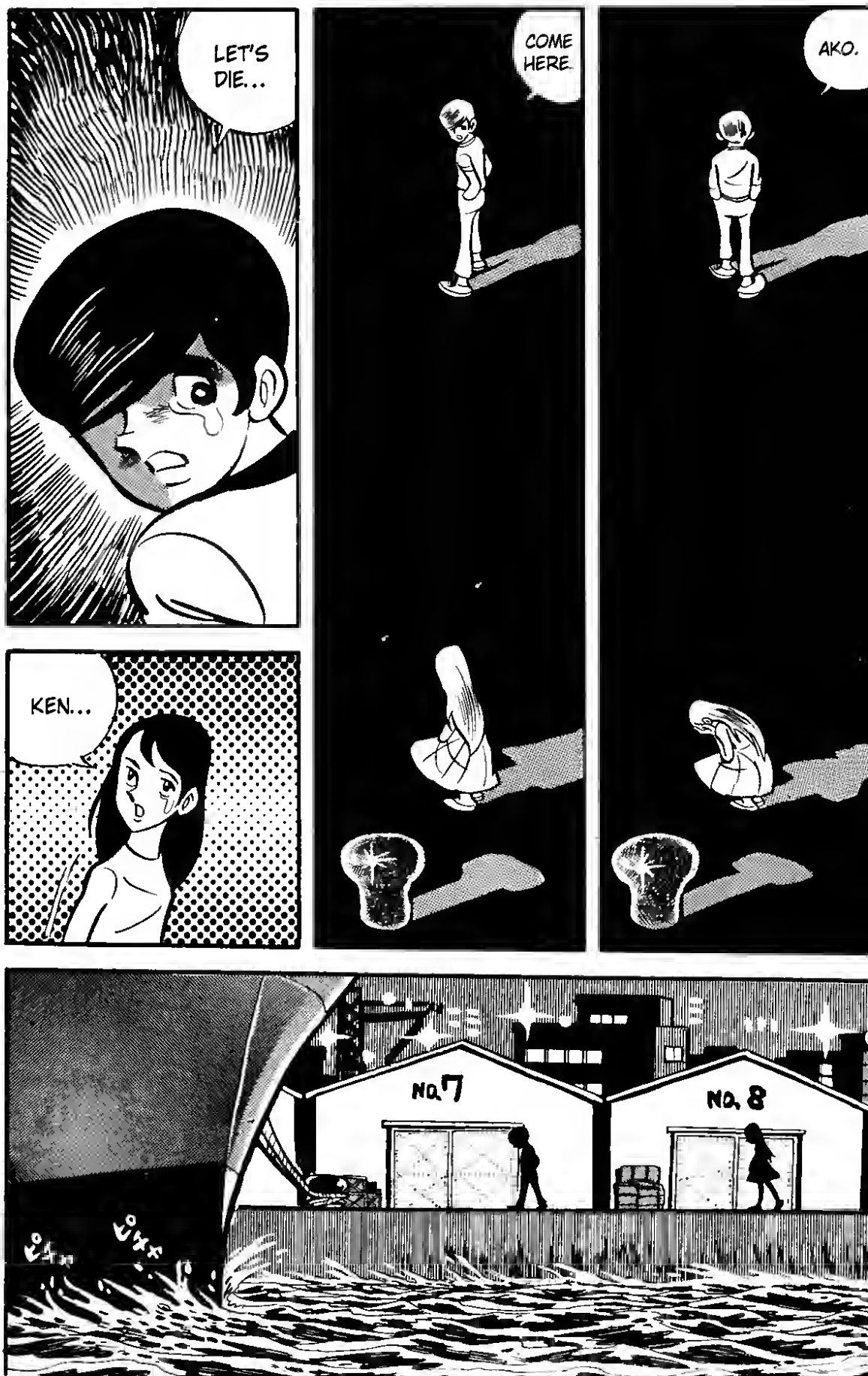

A...Ako!
LET'S DIE! THEN WE CAN SEE MOMMY AND DADDY AGAIN!


B-BUT AKO...
IF WE DIE, WE WON'T EVER BE HUNGRY AGAIN, AND WE WON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT HAVING A PLACE TO STAY.
I WANT TO DIE...

AKO...
SOB...
I WANT TO SEE MOMMY AND DADDY AGAIN... I WANT TO BE WITH THEM FOREVER!

I'M EVEN MORE SCARED OF LIVING WITH THEM!

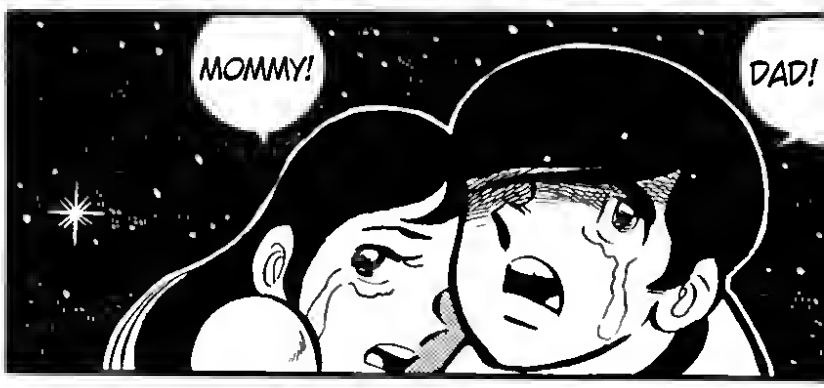

ARE YOU SCARED, KEN?

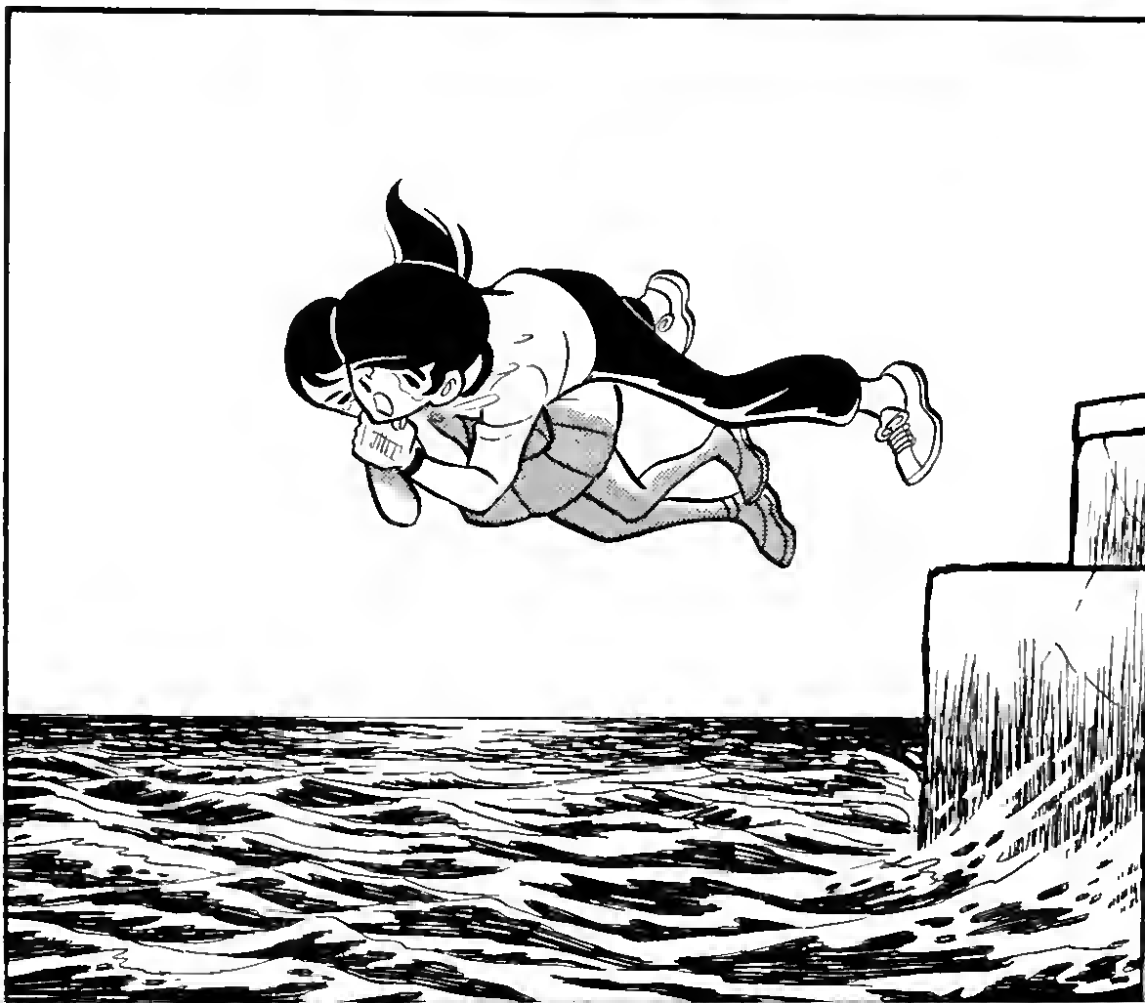

LET'S DIE...
COME HERE.
AKO.
KEN...
NO. 7
NO. 8

AKO.
DAD...
MOM...
ギュッ
HOLD ON TIGHT AND DON'T LET GO.
OKAY.

KEN!
AKO!

グラ


MOMMY!
DAD!



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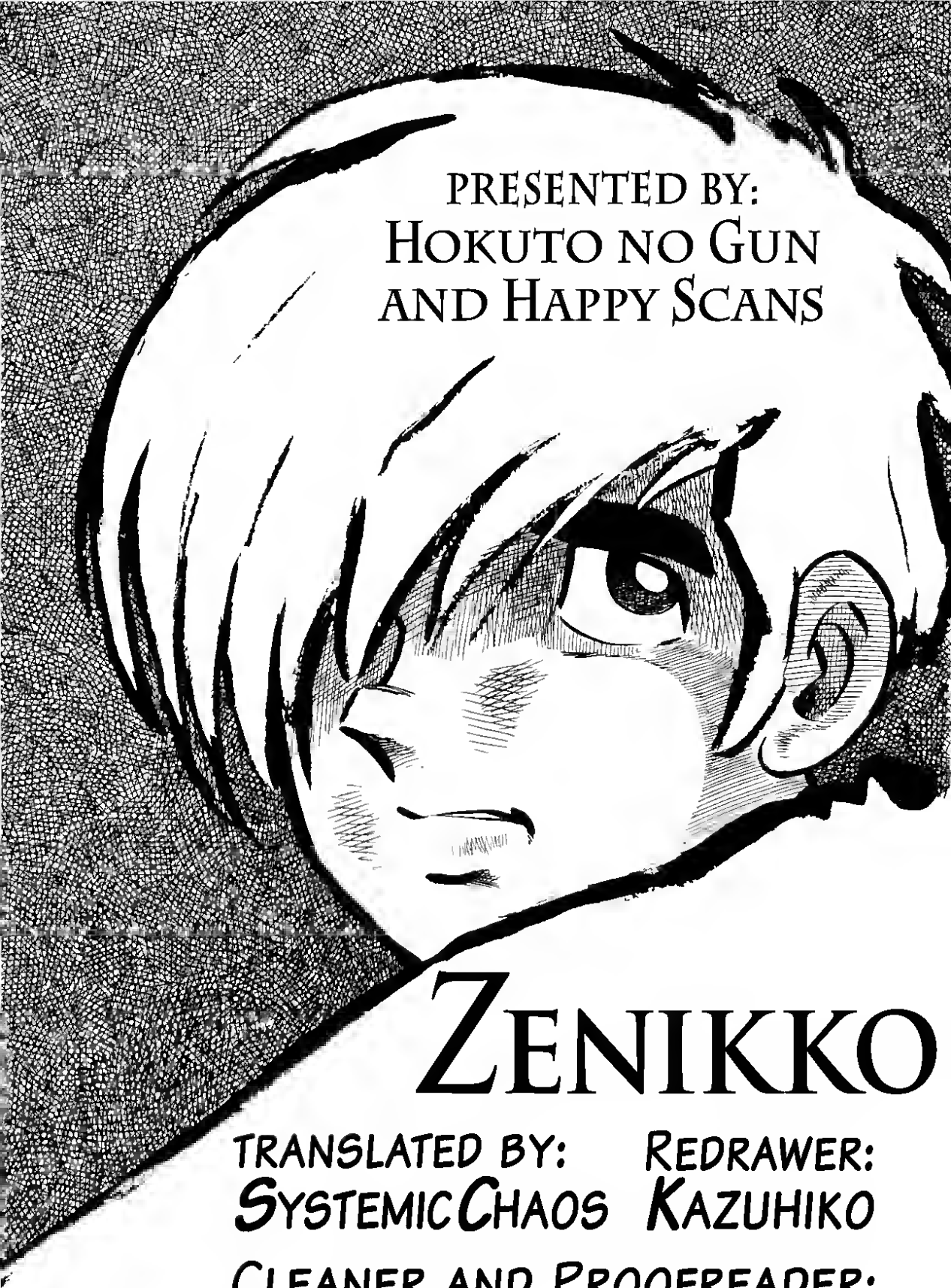

PRESENTED BY:
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND HAPPY SCANS

ZENIKKO

TRANSLATED BY:
SYSTEMICCHAOS

REDRAWER:
KAZUHIKO

CLEANER AND PROOFREADER:
WRIGHT

TYPESETTER:
TAMBUR